

THE CRYSTAL QUILL

Barony of Nordskogen,
Kingdom of Northshield



VOL. 30 • December 2024

Master William Blackfox Award Nominee, Best Overall Newsletter, AS LV (57)



Their Excellencies

Baroness Cynthia the Innocent | Cyndi Rauenhurst Baroness Heliseus | Stefanie Steele
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Photo of Their Excellencies used with permission of James Wyndover

Baronial Motto: Be Curious!

If you have a matter that you wish to raise with the Baronage, please contact the **Baronial Chamberlains:**
Lady Kersteken Arends | Christa Hassman Noble Liaden inghean Cheallaigh | Tif Puderbaugh

Kersteken@nordskogen.org

BARONIAL OFFICERS

Persons in the following list in most cases have jobs outside the home. Please be respectful and refrain from calls after 8:00 p.m.



Seneschal (Chapter President)
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seneschal@nordskogen.org



Chancellor of the Exchequer (Treasurer and Vice President)
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WEEKLY WEDNESDAY MEETING SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2024

Nordskogen Wednesday Nights, 7-9pm--No historic clothing is required.

In-person social practices are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month and are held indoors alongside rapier practice at [Olivet Congregational Church](#), 1850 Iglehart Ave, St. Paul MN. Use the side entrance of Olivet Congregational Church on Dewey St, through the garden. Parking is on the street. Masks and distancing are not required by the site but are welcome and recommended. **We must be out of the space by 9:00 p.m. sharp.** Our business meetings on the third Wednesday will continue to happen online via Zoom. The Zoom invitation will be posted in a pinned post in the Facebook discussion at this [link](#) and will also be sent to the Baronial email group. Please remember that you are muted when you join in. Video is encouraged but not required. Drop in and out as you wish.

12/11: Indoors in-person structured gathering at [Olivet Congregational Church](#)

Introduction to Nalbinding

12/18: Socializing & announcements online via Zoom. **Business meeting at 7:30pm**

12/25: Indoors in-person social practice—CANCELLED due to Christmas****

OTHER WEEKLY MEETINGS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

For more information on these meetings, see the current version of our weekly newsletter, the [Nib](#), at this [link](#).

UPCOMING BARONIAL SPECIAL EVENTS

TWELFTH NIGHT 2025—A FROSTY FETE--SATURDAY, JAN. 18, 2025, 7AM-9PM

Lord of Life Church, 14501 Nowthen Blvd NW, Ramsey MN 55303, 9am-8pm

Event steward: Lady Talaitha Nyfferyn (Annika Virginia): talaithaofnorthshield at gmail.com; 207-557-5893

Site Opens: Friday 6p - 8:30p for set up, Saturday 7am for setup, Gate: 9a for populace; Activities until 8:30pm

Site Close: 9:00pm - cleanup hard stop: 10pm

Fees: Adult: \$30 (Members: \$20); Under 18: Free

Checks Payable to: SCA Inc-Barony of Nordskogen. Paypal pre-registration will be available - stay tuned!

Merchant space is available!

Luncheon will be available. Go to this [link](#) for more information.

Site is **BONE DRY**. Site is ADA accessible

The following activities will be allowed/available:

Arts and Sciences Competition

Jumble Sale

Children's activities

Populace Space / Presence

Merchant Space

Armored/Rapier/Boffer/Archery

Other activities will be announced as they are confirmed to be available, and the schedule may change as space and safety allow, so please follow announcements in all the usual places.

NORTHSHIELD SPRING CORONATION, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025

Hosted by: Barony of Nordskogen

Lord of Life Church, 14501 Nowthen Blvd NW, Ramsey MN 55303, 9am-8:30pm

Event Stewards:

Trevor Gersch/Aelfwine, trevor at gersch.com

Alex Olfson/Aleksander Valahul, alexolfson at gmail.com

Site Fees:

Adult Member: \$15/person; *Adult Non-Member:* \$25/person;

Children 10 & under: Free (Might change to 17 and under. Please check back)

THIS SITE IS BONE-DRY! No alcoholic beverages allowed, even for cooking! Thank you.

No feast/food planned at this time.

If you would like to offer your services, please contact one of the event stewards.

Planned Activities: Armored Combat, Arts & Sciences Display, Classes, Rapier Combat

More information to come. Thank you for your patience!



A BARONIAL MISSIVE

Greetings to the populace of Nordskogen and Nordleigh!

Our Baronial hearth felt warm this past month, as we reflected on how grateful we are for those who donated toys, time, energy and supplies to help make largess for the three upcoming baronial investitures, and to answer the Kingdom's call. The highlight of the month was the annual Toys for Tots Tournament, which was a wonderful success this year, raising almost 300 toys, and over \$200, to support our local youth during this holiday season. Thank you for the generous donations along with an excellent tournament.

We'll be presenting the largess, and kingdom scroll cases, at the upcoming Feast of the Boar's Head. We hope to see many of you there, to revel, relax, and celebrate the new baronial leaders of Jararvellir and Caer Anterth Mawr. We've seen some great classes, tournaments, and feast notes circulating, and are looking forward to what is always a favorite event. Come find us and speak the secret phrase: Plum Pudding and receive a special treat.

Closer to home, we will be hosting another structured gathering on Wednesday, December 11, 7:00pm at Olivet Congregational Church. The class will be an introduction to Nalbinding, so if you've ever been intrigued by this historical cousin of knitting and crochet, please come join us!

Thursday, December 19, the Barony will host a repair and inventory evening for the Baronial Gold Key collection of loaner garb. We will not be hosting a gathering on the fourth Wednesday of this month, due to holiday scheduling conflicts with the venue.

While it may feel far away, Twelfth Night; a Frosty Fete is quickly approaching, and preparations are fast a pace. Keep an eye out for details on the A&S competition, the royal armoring contest, themed martial tournaments, jumble sale (still accepting donations) and lots and lots of snowflakes! Start looking for your gaming chests, as Barbat's Gaming Salon will not only have lots of period games, but prizes as well, for all ages. The Baronesses will also award a prize this year, to the most innovative use of snowflakes in garb or accessories.

We encourage you all to remember the warmth our community can provide, as we approach the cold, short days of this season. We hope that, by coming together, the cold will not feel as bitter, the nights too long, or the weather so isolating. We are so grateful to be a part of your journey and look forward to continuing that journey together.

TE of Nordskogen, Heliseus and Cynthia





Seneschal's Letter

Barony of Nordskogen – December Update: A Season of Generosity and Celebration!

Greetings, dear populace of Nordskogen!

As the chill of winter settles in, our barony is buzzing with the warmth of camaraderie and the spirit of giving. This month, we have much to celebrate and anticipate, so grab a cup of mulled cider and let's dive in!

Toys for Tots: Spreading Holiday Cheer

The generosity of Nordskogen shines brightly! Our recent Toys for Tots event was a resounding success. Together, we collected a sleigh-full of toys for children in need, ensuring that the magic of the season reaches every corner of our community. Heartfelt thanks to all who donated, organized, and volunteered to make this event memorable. You have truly embodied the spirit of our dream!

Twelfth Night: A Frosty Fete

As the holidays draw to a close, we look forward to Twelfth Night, a celebration of merriment, music, and mirth! Mark your calendars for January 18th, as we gather to bid farewell to the coldest season in true Nordskogen style.

Expect sumptuous feasting, lively entertainment, and, of course, the courtly splendor of our beloved barony. Whether you plan to showcase your skills in a competition, don your finest garb for the revels, or simply soak in the festivities, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Opportunities to Serve

The Exchequer is seeking a Deputy Exchequer! This is a fantastic opportunity to support the barony and learn valuable skills. If you're interested, please contact Lord Lachlann for more information. Applications can be sent to him and myself at seneschal@nordskogen.org

Additionally, both the Kingdom A&S Competition and Bardic Madness are looking for bids. If interested feel free to take the lead showing our barony's passion for the arts by bringing these events to life. If you have questions or ideas, contact the Northshield Seneschal at seneschal@northshield.org.

Regional Fighter Practice in Garden City

The Rivenwood Tower invites you to a Regional Fighter Practice on December 14th in Garden City! This is a wonderful opportunity to hone your skills, share techniques, and enjoy a day of camaraderie with fighters from across the region. Whether you're a seasoned combatant or a newcomer, all are welcome.

Winter Reminders

As we enjoy the season's festivities, don't forget to check on your fellow baronial members. A kind word or helping hand goes a long way during the colder months. If there is something I can help with please send me a message.

Thank you for making Nordskogen a beacon of joy and generosity. Wishing you all a warm and wonderful holiday season, filled with laughter, love, and light. See you at Twelfth Night!

For the goode of the Barony,
THL Judith of Northwode, Barony Seneschal



NOTES FROM THE NORDSKOGEN BUSINESS MEETING, NOVEMBER 20, 2024

Seneschal, THL Judith of Northwode (Sara Simon), presiding
Chronicler, Baroness Rosanore of Redthorn (Susan G. Henry), recording
30 in attendance (including Her Highness Aelina Aelinesdottir)

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

Officers' Reports

Their Excellencies Baroness Cynthia and Baroness Heliseus: Baroness Cynthia: We had a blast at Toys for Tots. Quite a few mon-Nordskogeners came. We will be working on scroll cases tomorrow. Next: we are planning on going to Boar's Head.

Seneschal, THL Judith of Northwode: Everyone did a great job at Toys for Tots. Thanks, Gospatric! Huge to have something under the tree when you don't expect it. We also will be traveling to Boars Head and are looking forward to the Baronial event in January 2025. Questions? Concerns? Feel free to reach out to me.

October 2024 Exchequer Report from THL Lachlann del Glen:

Starting Balance:	\$24,418.43
Event Income:	\$ 0.00
Deposits:	\$ 0.00
Donations:	\$ 1,000.00
Withdrawals:	-\$ 1,068.75
Bank Interest:	\$ 2.34
Ending Balance:	\$24,352.02

Withdrawals included:

-\$175.00	Carefree Self Storage-Baronial Storage
-\$250.00	Olivet Congregational Church (Rapier Practice)
-\$100.00	Olivet Congregational Church (Social Practice)
-\$543.75	Bethel Lutheran Church (Toys for Tots Site Fee)

Will check to see if there is any boffer money left. It turns out that Boffer has \$100 in the budget. So we will just need a receipt. If the expenditure goes over \$100, we will need a proposal and approval from the Financial Committee.

We need a deputy for this position. Please reach out to anyone who might be interested and let THL Lachlann know.

Chronicler, Baroness Rosanore of Redthorn: All is ok. The Quill will be published Sunday, December 1, 2024. Soft deadline is Tuesday, November 26. Hard deadline is Saturday, November 30.

Herald, THL Wolfstanus Lightfote: Has talked to one person to help with registration. Held court at Toys for Tots. Gave out two new person cups, three Baronial favors, and passed on Hand of Tyr to THL Lachlann.

Minister of Arts and Sciences, Lady Hedwyg: As mentioned earlier, we will be making scroll cases tomorrow. Will confirm third Thurs. sewing in December.

Boffer Captain, Lord Tribaldi de Gritti/Boffer MiT Lord Gospatric de Reynes: Getting people more consistently except for the roads tonight. 5 participants at Toys for Tots. Still working on transition. Vote next month hopefully. Put it in the Nib and Quill and then can vote as long as there is only the one candidate. Is there money that can be spent before Jan. for more loaner equipment? (Answer is yes; see under Exchequer above.)

Rapier Captain, Lord Yagüe Antolínez: From Facebook: No updates.

Officers' Reports (con.)

Chatelaine, Lady Iðunn Álfðísardóttir: A couple of people borrowed garb for Toys for Tots and more garb has been donated and added to her inventory document. No needs except for a bit of repair. Could bring it to sewing night for repair and weeding. Thanks from Baroness Cynthia for help with the neurodivergent folk who came to Toys for Tots.

Knight's Marshal, THL O'no Kagemori: Practice continues. No practice on Xmas Eve, probably not on New Year's Eve either. Has his successor lined up. It is Lord Fergus O'Dae. This will be announced in the Quill and the Nib.

Archery Captain, Lady Dagrún Björnsdóttir: 6-8 participants at practices. Have been shooting the Interkingdom Archery Challenge. Inventorying the loaner equipment. Allowing prevalent people to take stuff home and keeping track of that.

Thrown Weapons Captain, Lord Lachlann del Glen: Shut down for the winter.

Clerk of Precedence, Baron Geoffrey of Warwick: Caught up with everything through Twelfth Night.

Signet, Lord Aleksander Valahul: From Facebook: We have scrolls in the works for Twelfth Night! Several scrolls are assigned, and a few other fun things are in the works.

Quartermaster, THL Muirenn ingen Fhairchellaig: Getting together with Gospatric tomorrow to take Toys for Tots stuff back and make sure that the storage is battened down for Winter. Chatelaine: Please send her your inventory of garb. Miscellaneous stuff currently in the storage is for the rummage sale and is there temporarily.

Webminister, Baroness Coelwen ingen Adaim: From Facebook: Nothing to report.

Social Media Officer, Sitt Samia al-Lulu bint Isa: Not present.

Old Business

Toys for Tots--Lord Gospatric de Reynes

We raised 272 toys and over \$200 in donations as well. Great attendance. Very pleased with how it went. A lot of folks pitched in to help with its success. 67 adults, 6 minors, 73 total.

Twelfth Night—Lady Talaitha Nyfferyn

Master Crispin Fletcher and Lady Dagrún will be the archery marshals. Rapier schedule put together. Will the Princess Sleeve be happening at Twelfth Night? We need Bardic Coordinator, Lady Iðunn has agreed to come up with more children's activities. Will be reserving the stage to use possibly for the A&S displays. Tribaldi feels it would be better for viewing than for display. Tribaldi: His lady hopes to do a storytime for the children. Please put it on the schedule. Willing to extend that out to other activities if children are interested. Should we reach out to moneyers guild for tokens? Our traditional dessert lady can't come.

Spring Coronation Update

No needs just now says Lord Aleksandr. Will have the schedule ready to go as soon as pre-reg is happening. Their Highnesses definitely approve the site.

Rivenwood Tower Mat Request

Baron Wilhelm Amboß asked to borrow at least 4 up to 8 mats for the Winter Regional Melee Practice, December 14, in Rivenwood Tower. The rental fee will be \$50. Motion to approve this passed. Baron Wilhelm will coordinate with THL Muirenn. She and the Seneschal have keys to the storage. He will message both of them. It will probably be an evening when they go. Note: no light. Wilhelm will bring lights.

New Business (con.)

Twelfth Night Theme and Name

Making sure that name and theme are inclusive for all.

Theme

Apology from Their Excellencies. Baroness Cynthia: Acknowledged that Noel has a Christian aspect that is not appropriate to our goals. Nordic, blue and white, snowy aspects needed to be considered for the new theme. THL Judith (Nordskogen Seneschal): read out SCA DEI statement and then stated the parameters of the discussion. The meeting will be muted only if necessary. Raise hand to participate. Please state your SCA name and group. Will close chat if that gets too messy. Try to keep your comments to 2-3 minutes. Baroness Heliseus: We are now discussing the theme. Name of event will be discussed later. Lord Tribaldi (from Nordskogen): Just “A Nordic 12th Night”? Her Highness Aelina: Personally speaking, not as Crown. Note of warning: Nordic used to be associated with Nazi Party, Aryan. No longer so true. More bothered by using an obvious Chapel for swearing fealty. Lord Aleksander (from Nordskogen): Northern, instead of just Nordic, like northern Italy and other countries. Northern lights, Northern Knights. Baron Gabriel Kjotvason (from Nordskogen): Theme not really important. Delay having a theme until next year. Baroness Heliseus: Blue and silver snowflakes as a theme. Baroness Rosanore (from Nordskogen): Does the theme need a name? (Meistari Sefa Farmansdóttir (from Nordskogen) said something similar in the chat.) Nordskogen Nights, North Forest Nights. Baroness Heliseus: Considering having no theme at all. Baron Gabriel: Populace usually has no input in theme unless as a part of the bid. THL Judith: The theme was not part of the original bid. Their Excellencies and the Event Steward, Lady Talaitha, will decide on this by Friday.

Name

Question of event name came up as part of the theme discussion. Twelfth Night first held in the West Kingdom then adopted in the Midrealm for similar events including in Northshield. Was originally inspired by the Shakespearean play. Does have religious connotations in period. Also have pagan connections. Baroness Rosanore (from Nordskogen): Unitarian Universalist. If the title is objectionable even to a small number of people and makes them uncomfortable with attending an event, we should strongly consider changing it. Magister Farolfus filius Richardi (from Nordskogen): Speaking as a Jewish member of the Barony, he noted that no Jewish person can speak for all. There was no “sacred” “secular” divide in period. Twelfth Night was a holiday of things turned upside down. This discussion offers us a chance to examine what we’ve been doing, all of our activities? Not just changing one event’s name. Lord Tribaldi from Nordskogen): Practicing Christian. Has never looked at Twelfth Night as a Christian holiday. Long ago, everything got thrown in the blender and they covered old holidays with Christian ones. Most folks knowledge only consists of the song. Are we making an issue of something that isn’t one? Holidays are silly we have a bunny that lays eggs. Baron Geoffrey (from Nordskogen): Have had Twelfth Night for many years and it is kind of a hallmark for our group. We have a track record of holding an inclusive, secular event. It would be sad to leave it behind because of our long successful connection. Baron Gabriel: Former Catholic and Episcopalian who was considering becoming a priest. Christians should know what Epiphany is. He had never heard of the connection between Twelfth Night and Epiphany until the SCA. Twelfth Night is a secular thing associated with the SCA. Only the name has any connection to Christianity, not anything else about the event. Let’s not change this name. The reasoning is ill-advised. Erica Poitevins (from Nordskogen): Agrees with Gabriel. Has been agnostic and has Ashkenazi ancestors. Has never thought of the event as anything but secular. THL Judith (from Nordskogen): As Seneschal, is neutral. Agnostic and Ashkenazic. Has always felt that this event is secular. Have bigger fish to fry than an event’s title. Lady Talaitha (from Nordskogen; the Event Steward): Grateful for this really great discussion. THL Muirenn (from Nordskogen): Commenting as a scribe. This discussion has made me think about how much religion is woven into our period. Her current scroll project is based on a Bible page. Has already calligraphed Twelfth Night onto a scroll. Please make this change, if at all, for next year. A study of the Middle Ages without religion is really beige. Their Excellencies: This has been a good conversation. Her Highness Aelina, speaking as Hannah Story: Happy with this conversation. Moving the dates events because of their conflict Jewish holidays means a lot more to her than changing a theme. Lord Aleksandr: I wonder if having things like Twelfth Night and Boars Head in our very secular SCA way is a way of gently touching these things. Going to Twelfth Night is not celebrating Christmas. Gently touching things that make us uncomfortable can help us become stronger as a community and help us learn why these things do make us uncomfortable. Important to bring up these concerns and look at them under a different light. Their Excellencies: Knows the person who brought this up. Maybe this is a big feeling that is directed somewhere else? Kind of a mislaid feeling? Fear manifests itself. Lord Aleksandr: There is no fault in having

New Business (con.)

Twelfth Night Theme and Name (con.)

Name (con.)

those feelings. We want to make everyone feel included. But the hair trigger feelings of now make it hard. These are good conversations to have. THL Judith: Appreciates strength and courage of person who brought this up. Anyone who has such concerns should reach out to us. Lord Tribaldi: Feels like people are trying to control what they can in this current context. Their Excellencies: We appreciate everyone coming here and expressing their thoughts. We will take this time and reflect and will express our decision before this weekend. It is important that we as a Kingdom reflect on our activities and look at our history and not just depend on oral tradition. Want to listen so that everyone feels included. Lord Aleksandr: His therapist says that when you are having feelings about something that you are having anxiety over don't worry about stating it perfectly. Feels like everyone in this Barony is trying to listen and to understand.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm. Baron Gabriel Kjotvason made the motion. Lord Aleksandr seconded it.

GENERAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Theme and Title for Our January 18, 2025 Event

Greetings members of Northshield. Our Nordskogen Business Meeting covered two important topics this past Wednesday. One, to review and revise the theme of Twelfth Night (previously, a Nordic Noel) and two, to discuss the standing title of the event; Twelfth Night. Due to the length and consideration both these topics deserve, we will be separating the discussion into two parts.

Pt. 1

The theme Nordic Noel was brought to our attention as a concern, with the focus of the term Noel being overly focused on one religion, to the exclusion of others. Upon review, the word Noel has significant and current meaning to the Christian faith; specifically focusing on the birth of Jesus. This religious aspect does not accurately represent this year's theme and has been adjusted to Frosty Fete, to celebrate the Baroness' desire to see the symbol of the snowflake worn, adorned, and celebrated throughout the event.

We recognize the impact of the initial theme had on members of the Kingdom and want to apologize for the pain we have caused. The Baronesses of Nordskogen are appreciative of the opportunity to improve and solidify our overarching goal as a Barony; to have gatherings with historical premises that expand our horizons, celebrate milestones, or reflect particular historical objects / activities.

This also encouraged us to re-evaluate our efforts to keep and maintain an open dialogue. We plan on continuing our efforts to be accessible, seek to understand perspectives, and actively listen. Feedback is always welcome, and if concerned about privacy or algorithms, please send here: baroness at Nordskogen dot org.

Pt. 2

A second question arose during the discussion of this year's event theme, regarding the title Twelfth Night, and whether it should continue in use for future events. As many Scadians do, we conducted our research on the origin of the event title.

We found that the first Twelfth Night was held in the West Kingdom in 1967 and was specifically touted as being named for the Shakespearean play. The tradition spread as other Kingdoms emerged, and several local seasonal events throughout the Middle Kingdom adopted the name, including Nordskogen.

We did find a number of historical associations with the tradition of Twelfth Night. The Christmas closing feast, often irreverent, where it was tradition to remove holiday paraphernalia from the home the night prior to the Christian

GENERAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (con.)

Theme and Title for Our January 18, 2025 Event (con.)

Pt. 2 (con.)

celebration of Epiphany. We found the celebration of Twelve days and nights at this specific time of year also has roots in Celtic and Norse traditions, such as the twelve days and nights of Pagan yule, and some Roman traditions of Saturnalia, where each of the twelve months of the year was represented by a day of festival. A few political bodies outlawed the celebration of Twelfth Night as overly secular by the late Middle Ages. The active celebration of Twelfth Night appears to have continued regionally into the early 1800s, but by the 1900s, had been largely discontinued. With this history in mind, we asked our populace to join the conversation and share their thoughts.

Everyone expressed a strong commitment and desire to continue to improve inclusion, understanding that history and religion have intricate ties. The populace spoke eloquently, drawing from a variety of cultural and social experiences. Many of those who shared were concerned that excluding certain aspects of history, so long as they are not actively used as terms or symbols of modern religious practices, could devalue the opportunity to learn and fully appreciate the past we seek to re-create. It was also agreed that there are more active steps we can take to support the diverse members of the populace, and to keep an on-going and respectful conversation flowing to ensure an inclusive atmosphere. Based on the populace feedback, and with the inclusion of additional public acknowledgement that the title represents a specific approach to our study of the multi-faceted lens of history, we will keep the event title as Twelfth Night.

We feel that the title Twelfth Night, unlike Noel, is not currently exclusively tied to the modern observances of any specific religion and is instead largely associated with the anachronistic study of history, or Shakespeare's work. In addition, we will add the history and background of this title to the event website, as well as listing the other steps we will take to ensure our events are inclusive gatherings. This is an opportunity for everyone in our Kingdom to take a good look at past traditions, clarify how they include and celebrate everyone, and ensure they best serve the community we are today. For future assessments, we will recommend approaching with curiosity, seeking counsel, active listening, leading with kindness and maintaining paths of communication with the goal of inclusivity for the ultimate benefit of our community.

YIS, TE Heliseus and Cynthia

Announcement of Votes of Confidence for Knight's Marshal and Youth Boffer Captain

We will be having votes of confidence for the new Knight's Marshal and Youth Boffer Captain at our next business meeting on December 18. The Knight's Marshal candidate is: Lord Fergus O'Dae and the Youth Boffer Captain candidate is: Lord Gospatric de Reynes. It is still possible for you to volunteer for one of these positions. Just get your letter of intent to the [Seneschal](#) and [Their Excellencies](#) before December 18. If more candidates step forward, the vote of confidence will become a question and answer session and the vote will take place at the Jan. 15 business meeting.

Arts and Sciences Competition at Twelfth Night 2025

Unto the Populace of Northshield:

Soon winter winds will be blowing upon our lands, and the Barony of Nordskogen will again be hosting Twelfth Night on January 18, 2025. To that end, we invite all Artisans, Cooks, Makers, Bards & Performers, those inclined toward the Sciences, and anyone interested in the Arts and Sciences of our Kingdom to participate in an Arts & Sciences Competition!

Please note the following update: The competition is open to your interpretation of the former title, "A Nordic Noel," the new title, "Frosty Fete," which celebrates anything snowflake-related, or you can choose to do anything winter-related. Extra points will be awarded for entries with snowflakes! ANY arts and science is eligible, including bardic, cooking, armoring, scribal, clothing, etc. - EXCEPT note that the site is bone dry, including the parking lot, so no alcohol concoctions will be allowed. Entrants, you are encouraged to sit with your creations and share information about your item(s) if you choose to!

Our team of cool-thing aficionados will award prizes to the niftiest entries in the categories:

Children under 16 Youth ages 16-21 Adult 21+ Entries created by a household/family group

Please contact THL Neave inghean Domhnaill at robynturtle (at) gmail.com with any questions, or if your entry is larger than 24" in any dimension. If your entry is a performance, skit, a cooked or food item, or requires a demonstration, please also contact Neave with a description. We will set up a mutually agreeable time for these entries.

For more information on the event, see: <https://nordskogentn.wordpress.com/>

Yours, Neave

GENERAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (con.)

Jumble Sale at Twelfth Night 2025

We are having a jumble sale at Twelfth Night, and we are looking for donations of any items you may have. THL Wolfstanus Lightfote is our coordinator. He will be at Olivet Congregational Church, 1850 Iglehart Ave, St. Paul MN, 55104 (the same place rapier practice and social practice is held) on Wednesday evenings from 7PM to 8:30 PM on 12-4-2024, 12-11-2024, 12-18-2024, 1-8-2025, and 1-15-2025. If drop off on Wednesday night does not work for you contact him to see if something can be worked out (wolfstanuslightfote at gmail.com) or bring your items to the jumble sale the day of the event.

Announcement of The Reinstated Baronial Calendar on the Nordskogen Webpage

At Their Excellencies' request, Baroness Coelwen and I have reinstated and updated the Baronial calendar originally created by Baron Oswald Frank. You can find a link to it in the menu at the top of the [Baronial webpage](#) or click on this [link](#) to go directly to the calendar.

Notice From the Knight Marshall To All Armored Combatants

All Armored Combatants and Those Who Enjoy Armored Combat: Please remember to sign-up through the MPRB website. Doing this, along with our weekly sign-in at the park, ensures we continue to get use of the rec building at no cost. Please go to the link below and register for the #5726 Armored Combat class. If you have a login already, this is quick, if not you can create a login relatively quickly. YIS, Kagemori <https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/.../activity/searc>

Donations to the Barony

Thank you, donors! If you would like to donate and help us to stay financially strong, send a check by mail to: W. Lloyd Hudson, 18281 84th Ave N., Maple Grove, MN, 55311. Checks should be made out to: SCA, Inc.—Barony of Nordskogen.

Nordskogen Makes The TV News

Maury Glover has done a story segment on us. Here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQkJpj_j0V8



Nordskogen Baronial Trim Is Available at Calontir Trim!

If you would like to get some of the lovely trim depicted above, here is the [link](#) to the website.

Weekly Silent Herald / ASL Practice Every Thursday via Zoom

Want to brush up on your signing skills? All sign levels are welcome. The Silent Herald / ASL Practice Session is a repeating weekly Zoom meeting. We practice every Thursday evening starting at 9pm Eastern (8pm Central, 7pm Mountain, 6pm Pacific). Contact Maestra Suzanne de la Ferté, Society Silent Herald Deputy, at [Suzanne Booth](#) via Facebook Messenger if you need the link to the practice session.

[The Signorotti Membership Assistance Fund](#) From the [sca.org](#) website

In response to suggestions from our community, the Society has set up a donation fund to support those participants who may find it difficult to continue their memberships. Members of our community can request assistance from our Corporate Office to purchase or renew memberships using this fund, named in honor of Renee Signorotti who recently retired after heading up the SCA's Membership Office for over 40 years.

To submit a request for membership assistance, follow the instructions [here](#). SCA Membership will be treated confidentially.

To make a donation: Donations are tax-deductible. Online payments are accepted, or you can mail your donation to the address below. All contributions to the Signorotti Fund will be dedicated for Membership Assistance.

Donate online to the Signorotti Membership Assistance Fund. PayPal and credit/debit cards accepted.

DONATE ONLINE

If sending a check, please make it payable to SCA, Inc., and mail it to: SCA Inc., Attn: The Signorotti Fund, P.O. Box 611928, San Jose, CA 95161. For more information, please email membership@sca.org.

A LIST OF SOME ONLINE GATHERINGS OF INTEREST TO SCA FOLK

*--Facebook Group All times are Central Time unless otherwise noted. An updated version of this list can be found at the link above.

Nordskogen

*[**Nordskogen Social Practice Online via Zoom, Third Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm \(may run longer\)**](#)

Next online social practice: December 18th (business meeting at 7:30pm).

Join us for an online gathering via Zoom. The meeting invitation will be posted in a pinned post in the Facebook discussion group at the link above and also will be posted to our Baronial email discussion group. Please remember that you are muted when you join in. Video is encouraged but not required. Drop in and out as you wish.

[Nordskogen Channel on Northshield Unofficial Discord Server](#)

Nordskogen Special Interest Facebook Groups

Barony of Nordskogen Discussion Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Nordskogen>

Canton of Nordleigh

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Nordleigh>

Nordskogen Archery Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/304828682244883>

Nordskogen Armoured Combat

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Nordskogen.armored>

Nordskogen Dancers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1587325938146072>

Nordskogen Group Camping

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/745627257774535>

Nordskogen Rapier Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/nordskogen.fencing>

Nordskogen Thrown Weapons

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1697917837116667>

Northshield

Northshield Activities, Classes, and Events

[Northshield Unofficial Discord Server](#)

[Northshield Official Discord Server](#)

Northshield Special Interest Facebook Groups

Anglo-Saxons of Northshield and Friends

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/706755262740309>

The Army of Northshield

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/656097414404272/>

Artillery Arts Martial in Northshield

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/144334776010909>

Clan Blue Feather

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/683301623830034>

Companions of the Stellar Hart (Northshield Courtesans)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthshieldCourtesans>

Kingdom of Northshield Glass Workers

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1529244790687790>

Northshield Arts and Sciences

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/532690726749947>

Northshield Bards

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1552940374967878>

Northshield Barter and Trade

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/469057956444539>

Northshield Brewer's Guild

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1702958423277864/>

Northshield College of Heraldry

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/308940499761457>

Northshield College of Scribes

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/107714786015764>

Northshield Combat Archery/Siege

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/569152006574803>

Northshield Cooks

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/279315155938918>

Northshield Early Music

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1219008355459586>

Northshield Equestrians

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/111719882243075>

Northshield Farming Guild

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/855993841238202/>

Northshield Hand of Tyr

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NShandoftyr>

Northshield History

<https://www.facebook.com/NorthshieldHistory>

Northshield "I Am No Bro" Interdisciplinary Fighter Squadron

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/iamnobro/>

The Northshield Inn

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/462797700463779/>

Northshield Moneyer's Guild

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/477072765762866/>

Northshield Rebated Steel Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/220595020772855>

Northshield Youth Boffer Combat

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/479972685536766>

Unofficial Northshield Forester's Guild

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1247898808582127/>

Virtual A&S Display—Entries from the June 1, 2024 Northshield Arts and Sciences Competition

Northshield Royal Activities, Courts, and Events

*[**Their Royal Majesties' Website**](#)

*[**Their Royal Highnesses' Website**](#)

A LIST OF SOME ONLINE GATHERINGS OF INTEREST TO SCA FOLK (con.)

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Northshield (con.)

Future Taped Northshield Courts and Tourneys [Send in award recommendations!](#)

All taped courts and tourneys will be broadcast on the Kingdom Official Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/SCANorthshield/> and on the Kingdom YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU3tGV18QKVnunc1qxxMMDw>

Past Ethereal and Live Northshield Events Available Online. Recordings of live events are double starred.

Royal Court, 4-4-2020

Coronation, 4-18-2020

Royal Court, 5-9-2020

Schützenfest and Mermaids Retreat, May 29, 2020

Border Skirmish, Castle Fever, Castel Rouge 50th, 6-13-20

Mimisbrunnr, June 27, 2020

Warriors and Warlords, July 11, 2020

All Garbed Up and Nowhere To Go, 8-22, 2020

Venturing Forth, September 26, 2020

It's the GREAT Nordfest, Charlie Brúnn, Oct. 24, 2020

SUN Court, Saturday, November 14, 2020

**Courts at Northshield Spring Crown Tourney & Crown Tourney Itself, 6-19-21

Royal Court at Wishes and Waiting, Sunday, July 11, 2021.

Last Baronial Court of Baroness Clara & Baron David & Investiture of Gabriel De Lion & Nadrah al-Zahara as Shaikh and Shaikha Castel Rouge, Saturday, September 4, 2021

**The Elevation of Baroness Caoilfhionn inghen Cheallaigh uí Mhórdha to the Order of the Laurel, Sat., 9-11-21

**The Final Court of Elis and Ciaran and Fall Coronation of Hans and Genevieve, Saturday, September 11, 2021

**Fall Crown Tournament: Morning Court and Tournament, Saturday, October 9, 2021

**Fall Crown Tournament: Evening Court, Saturday, October 9, 2021

Royal Court at the Feast of Isabelle, Saturday, February 26, 2022

**Spring Crown Tournament, Saturday, May 14, 2022

**Spring Crown Tournament: Afternoon Court, Saturday, May 14, 2022

**Crown Tournament: Saturday, September 10, 2022

**Fall Coronation: Saturday, September 10, 2022

**Fall Crown: Saturday, October 8, 2022

Greater SCA

General Lists of Events and Classes

Countess Jehanette's Unofficial Calendar of SCA Classes, Videos, and Streams

#SCAatHome Highlights 11, June 19, 2020

SCA Classes On YouTube (List maintained by Countess Jehanette)

Kingdom Specific Lists of Events and Classes

Virtual Atlantia

Events and Classes--Ongoing

[ARTemisia Virtual U.](#)

[Virtual Bardic Circles](#)

Bardic Circles and Classes Online

Dahrien's List of Online Bardic Circles

Interkingdom Bardic Showcase, a [post] Pennsic tradition, 2020 Edition, Now on YouTube Known World Colour

[Known World Chatelaine Symposium 2023—YouTube Playlist of 27 videos](#)

Known World Heraldic and Scribal Symposium

Knowne World Bardcast

*The Honorable Clover Miss the SCA, but can't make it to an event? Come hang out with us!

Meridies Open Social Zoom, Tuesdays, 5pm-Midnight, Central Time—[Link to Schedule](#)

[A LIST OF SOME ONLINE GATHERINGS OF INTEREST TO SCA FOLK \(con.\)](#)

*--Facebook Group All times are Central Time unless otherwise noted. An updated version of this list can be found at the link above.

Greater SCA (con.)

Events and Classes--Ongoing (con.)

[Pennsic 49 House Sans Nomen Concert](#)

*[Royal University of the Midrealm \(RUM\) Goes Online](#)

[SCA Board of Directors Quarterly Meetings on YouTube](#)

[SCA Concert Index](#)

[SCA Iberia Webpage](#) and [YouTube Channel](#)

*[SCA Online Virtual Bardic Night](#)

*[SCA Virtual Classroom and Artisan Display](#)

Silent Herald / ASL Practice 8pm (Central) Every Thurs. via Zoom. Facebook message [Suzanne Booth](#) for link.

[Sunday Night With The Scribes](#) (more details below under Individual Events—One Time)

Sunday Night with the Scribes is an evening spent in the company of other Scribal Arts folks from around the Known World. Whether you're here to learn a skill, share your success or simply hang out with your Art friends, there is room at the table for you. Come for the Community, Stay for the Art! Extended calendar, class times for multiple time zones, event descriptions, & zoom links are at the link above. Zoom opens at 6p Central & classes start at 7p Central.

[Virtual Known World Arts and Sciences Display—A Pennsic Activity](#)

Virtual Pennsic University courses are available on their [YouTube channel](#).

West Kingdom's Past and Future Newcomer 101 Classes

Go to [westkingdom.org](#) Click on Calendars. Then click on Activities. Scroll through for the various Newcomer 101 classes. Click on them to get information and meeting links and the programs web link. You can even add them to your own electronic calendar. Visit/Subscribe to the [West Kingdom YouTube Channel](#) to see the taped versions when they are posted after the fact.

[Winter Viking Experiment Presentation In English](#) A video of this presentation is available at the link.

Events and Classes—One Time

[Known World Accessibility, Inclusion, & Belonging Symposium \(KWAIBS\), Online 1/18/25, 11am-7pm Central](#)

The Known World Accessibility, Inclusion, and Belonging Symposium (KWAIBS) is a virtual educational event with classes, demos, and social activities for those interested in learning about the SCA Core Values of acting with fairness and practicing inclusiveness. Magnifica Gianna Alberti (Gigi Belladonna) and Barunin Gera Gangolffin (Jeri Sisco) are co-stewarding this first, virtual SCA KWAIBS. It is a multi-track educational event with classes, panels, and social activities to share knowledge. This event is sponsored by Costumers of Color, Inc and Voice of Color. This symposium is a follow up to the 2024 An Tir virtual SCA DEIB Collegium which had over 500 attendees with every kingdom in the known world represented.

The KWAIBS will be held virtually via Zoom & YouTube on January 18, 2025 from 11am-7pm Central Time. Classes and panels will be in 3 formats: 10–20-minute chats, 45–60-minute presentations, and 90-120-minute keystone talks. Classes/panels will be attended either live in real time via zoom or viewed on YouTube at your leisure the day of the event.

To **become an instructor** or lead a panel for this event: Submit your class/panel idea for consideration [via this form](#). If selected, your class description and instructor bio will be featured on this website.

Existing videos can also be submitted as classes. Potential instructors who do not have a YouTube channel may be hosted as guests by another instructor. Please subtitle your videos for accessibility.

Sign-up to teach or moderate classes is open until December 1, 2024.

Remember, classes and panels can be pre-recorded or held live.

To **sign up as support staff** for this event [fill out this form](#).

Use the hashtags #KWAIBS and #SCAIB when posting or searching about this event on social media.

[Virtual Known World Heralds and Scribes, Jan 24-26, 2025—Class Request/Class Proposal Link](#)

We are now taking submissions for classes to be held at the virtual KWHSS next January. The Symposium will run Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday morning. Our home time zone is UTC -5 (Eastern Standard Time in North America), but we hope to offer opportunities to schedule at times that will work across the Known World. Our platform is Zoom. If you're interested in teaching a class, please fill out the form found at the link below. Deadline for class submissions is December 31, 2025. We encourage you to sign up early to get your preferred timeslot.

Questions? Email the team: classes.vkwhss.2025@gmail.com

Class request/proposal form: https://bit.ly/vKWHSS_Instructors_2025

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Greater SCA (con.)

Events and Classes—One Time (con.)

University of Atlantia—Online, Saturday & Sunday, February 2 & 3, 2025

Calling for classes from ALL KINGDOMS!

Important planning dates for the session:

* Track Proposals Due: November 26

* Class Proposals Due: December 10

* Instructor Review: December 18

* Student Registration begins: January 3

* Student Registration closes: January 29

We are excited to invite proposals for our online event - both individual classes and tracks of thematically related classes. Share your knowledge with the kingdom and visitors from throughout the Knowne World!

Submit your track proposals through our handy new form! <https://tinyurl.com/b3hnpuxc>

* Submit a new class or resubmit a class you've taught before

* Learn more about teaching or organizing a track of classes

* Just have an idea for a class but don't know where to turn

Class proposal information can be submitted via either the University website or via email to the Chancellor at chancellor@university.atlantia.sca.org To make scheduling classes easier, please only request a specific class time if absolutely necessary. If you email a class proposal, please include the following information:

Instructor name (SCA and modern); Class title; Fees (if any); Max number of students (if applicable); Duration of class (1 hour, 2 hours, or more); Class description; Additional needs such as a hosted virtual room or online TA.

Through the Looking Glass: A Virtual Costuming Competition—Entries Due by February 22, 2025

The Aethelmearc Clothiers Guild is hosting a virtual costuming competition, "Through the Looking Glass". Entries will be judged online, and participants are invited to join us for an in-person display at a TBD future Aethelmearc event. We encourage participants of all skill levels! Out of Kingdom entries are welcome.

The Challenge: Choose any piece of artwork featuring an outfit, then recreate that ensemble (clothing, jewelry, accessories) as faithfully as possible using that piece of art as your primary source of inspiration.

For more information about competition rules and instructions please visit [tinyurl.com/LookingGlass24!](https://tinyurl.com/LookingGlass24)

Sunday Night with the Scribes

- Zoom opens at 6pm Central; Classes run from 7-9pm Central; Zoom Closes at 10pm Central.

- The Zoom address for the sessions is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89540958886> Please note: a Hastings Lock is used for the password for the Zoom Room. Message them at the Facebook link below if you need the Lock.

- FB Page (Zoom links can be found here): <https://www.facebook.com/ScribalSunday>

- Webpage: <https://scribal.art/> Google Calendars for many time zones. Zoom links are in each calendar entry.

Sunday, Dec. 1--What manuscript style is that - a tour of terminology with Ellen de Lacy

Get your language right when talking about manuscripts.

Sunday, Dec. 8--Newbie Knowhow - Laying out the Lines and Fixing the Nibs with Hellen of Haldane

Hellen will share and show different techniques for setting up a page of lines as well as some of the online resources. We will also look at how to hone and sharpen your nibs for the best calligraphy.

Sunday, Dec. 15—Open Scribal

Maybe there will be a side topic of looking for Christmassy images in manuscripts--also stars and comets.

Sunday, Dec. 22; Sunday, Dec. 29—No meetings

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Greater SCA (con.)

Events and Classes—One Time (con.)

Sunday Night with the Scribes (con.)

Sunday, Jan. 5--Working on Black with Nykera Drago D'Argento

Join us for an evening of demo and technical insights into work on black papers. The tools and methods will be discussed.

Sunday, Jan. 12--Giving and Receiving Feedback for Works of Art and Science in the SCA with Baroness Cecilia Nail, West Kingdom

A delightful, informative and most important presentation on feedback. This presentation is jampacked with practical and wonderful insights, ideas and tips.

Sunday, Jan. 19--Oops! The Mistakes Class with Sigridr galdrakona Gala Eiriksdottir

We all make mistakes - but fixing them takes some talent and experience. So join Sigridr for her class on fixing mistakes beautifully!!

Sunday, Jan. 26--Bring It and Fix it Evening With Hellen of Haldane

Bring it and Fix it evening. Tools, work, designs - bring them to show and share and get help with Hellen of Haldane and the SNWTS.

SCA Individuals

(The Wrong) and Honorable Master Dahrien Cordell's Online Bardic Circle via Zoom

***Meeting ID: * 850-6206-6750 Passcode: 1 (yes, just that single digit)**

Join in browser or installed Zoom app/program: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85062066750>

Join by Skype for Business: <https://us02web.zoom.us/skype/85062066750>

The next bardic circle will be Thurs., 12/5/24.

Official Start: 6pm, Central Time [Sometimes he opens things early, though.]

End: When his last bardic playmates leave him.

For info. on future bardic circles, go [here](#).

[Website of Dúgū Jínán \(Kasia Gromek\)](#)

[HRM Tom's Fighting Videos](#) Including fighting in the snow in January 2023.

[Magistrissa Anna Dokeianina Syrakousina/Angela Costello-Perrone Moves Into The Digital World](#)

If you have any questions about anything in this newsletter, please feel free to contact the Chronicler at: 651-605-1085 (before 10 pm) or at chronicler@nordskogen.org