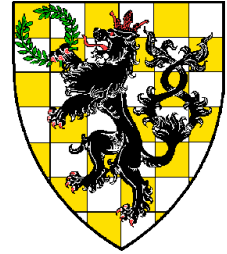
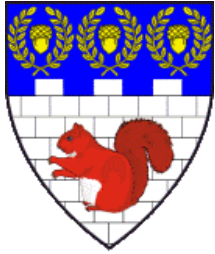


The Jousting Squirrel



May, Anno Societatis LIX (2024)
Newsletter for The Canton of Akornebir
A Branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA Inc.)

winning wastekeep

The Canton of Akornebir and Barony of Wastekeep showed up in force at the annual Baroness War in Vulkanfeldt on the weekend of April 19-21, and notably came away as winners of the multi-activity competition against several other An Tir baronies.

With some from Wastekeep camping both nights and others making day trips from the Tri-Cities or Walla Walla, the barony gathered under the pavilion and plotted how best to earn points in the war.

Large crowds from the public came out to watch the heavy fighting, with Wastekeep winning one important round in the castle siege, and the rapier field was well represented with combatants from the Blasted Musketeers performing well.

In between competitions of arts and sciences, as well as archery, members found times to visit the merchants stalls, make terrariums, learn spear authorization, ride horses, attend court, and share food.

Mistress Gudrun of Wastekeep, emerging victorious as baroness of the winning team, spoke about what it meant to win the war:

“Congratulations Wastekeep!” she wrote. We have won glory and wordfame at Baroness War! Thank you to all those would supported me and the Barony! I appreciate you all. You have made my last Baroness War a triumph!”



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about the canton of Akornebir

The Canton of Akornebir is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. We are located at the foot of the Blue Mountains, in Walla Walla, Washington. Our area includes all of Walla Walla County and the Waitsburg/Dayton area. Akornebir became an official branch of the Society in June, 2001 (A.S. XXXVI). Citizens of Akornebir have for many years been affectionately known as Squirrels.



The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA) is a non-profit group dedicated to researching and recreating the Middle Ages in the present.

The Canton of Akornebir is located in the Kingdom of An Tir (Irish translation: Our Land), in the area formerly known as the Inland Region. Locally, the Canton of Akornebir is a part of the Barony of Wastekeep. Its territory includes the Canton of Akornebir, and any 993xx zip codes within Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla counties and, through previous negotiations, including Grandview, which is in Yakima county.

The Barony of Wastekeep is ruled by our Baron and Baroness who act on the King's authority and hold the lands in their stead. Their Excellencies are pleased to grant Baronial Awards to worthy members of the populous and to challenge those who would apply to become one of Wastekeep's Sergeants.

web links

www.sca.org

www.sca.org/new-to-the-sca/

www.antir.org

akornebir.antir.org

wastekeep.antir.org

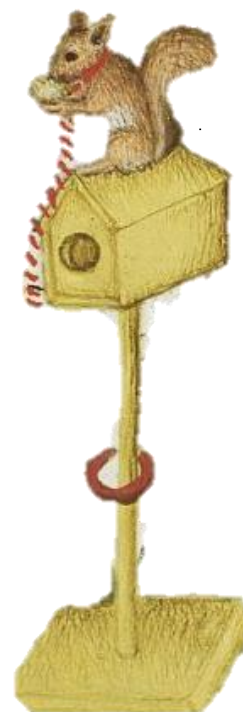
The Squirrel Press

Summer of change ahead

The Barony of Wastekeep and Canton of Akornebir have a busy event season during these summer months, starting new traditions, hosting day and weekend events, as well as coordination of May Crown. One new event in baronial lands is the start of a new monthly tournament for heavy and rapier fighters, hosted at different parks in Wastekeep. This will be taking place the first Wednesday of every month, in place of regular fight practice, and is designed to create buzz in the community, as well as help new fighters gain tournament experience.

The Baronial Springfest will be held in Akornebir, at the park in Waitsburg, from June 7-9, and Sergeants Trials takes place later in the summer on Saturday, August 24.

May Crown itself will host the changeover in baronial leadership as Baroness Gudrun and Baron Thorkell step down after two terms and new landed representatives, supported by polling done in spring, will be chosen to lead.



The Scurries of painting and pain

While the warmer months of the SCA calendar typically include arts and sciences through classes and competitions at camping events, for the rest of the year, craft sessions and other activities take place in what are called scurries at people's homes. Sometimes these gatherings of friends and family may involve painting, sandwich potlucks, conversation and fellowship, other times it involves allowing yourself to be shot with a bow in the name of historical interpretation.

Spring in Akornebir had a pair of scurries. In March, there was a repeat of the sandwich and scribal scurry at Lord Cuthbert's house, where on St. Patrick's Day, canton and baronial members gathered to eat, paint scrolls, socialize, and do some financial planning. Some even got a chance to spend time with friends they hadn't seen in many years, as well as introduce themselves to new guests.

However, it was the previous scurry the month before that truly "left a mark." Serving at the pleasure of their baroness, Cuthbert and Cody stood at attention like men-at-arms and took several shots from Gudrun's tennis-ball crossbow designed to be used in heavy combat scenarios. Slow motion videos of the impacts, showing the two in armor getting hit several times, made for a highlight of the scurry, with photos available in page 8 of this newsletter.

The Pegasus strikes



SCA Fight practice in the Canton of Akornebir was busier than normal on the evening of Monday, April 15. As part of a joint effort with several helpful members traveling over from Wastekeep, an introductory sword-fighting workshop was put on for students from Walla Walla University and their English department's Pegasus Club.

Over twenty English and history majors came to Pioneer Park to learn the basics of Shakespearean-era fencing, with several college visitors fully suiting up with loaner armor to partake in their first supervised duel.

In between bites of club-provided pizza, at least a dozen picked up a blade to better understand handle weight, stance and posture, as well as Renaissance honor and how to bow correctly. Most were hearing about the Society for Creative Anachronism for the first time.

English Professor Lauren Peterson, sponsor of the University's Pegasus Club, spoke of the event's benefits to education for when they return to the classroom: "It was great to see students enacting something that I could later reference when teaching Shakespeare," and told of "one college student who said that it exceeded her expectations and she already had high expectations."



UPCOMING CANTON ACTIVITIES AND REGIONAL EVENTS

CANTON ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Inquire for carpool details regarding going to Wednesday night Wastekeep fight practices.
- ❖ Akornebir rapier practices are on Mondays at 5.30pm in Wildwood Park. Next practice: Mon. May 6.
- ❖ Wastekeep online business meeting will be on Zoom, Thursday May 9 at 6:00pm.
- ❖ Canton business meeting will be on Thursday, June 6 at 6:30 with location to be announced.

REGIONAL EVENTS

- ❖ May Crown: May 17 - 19 in Wastekeep (Grandview, WA)
- ❖ Celtic Revolt: May 24 - 27 in Wealdsmere (Nine Miles Falls)
- ❖ Iron & Ink: May 31 - June 2 hosted by Lyonsmarche (Moses Lake, WA)
- ❖ Wastekeep Springfest: June 7 - 9 in Akornebir (Waitsburg, WA)
- ❖ Sergeantry Trials: August 24 in Wastekeep (Tri-Cities, WA)

In service to the Canton: an interview with a gentle

Jousting Squirrel: What is your name, position and title(s) in the SCA, and how long have you been involved?

Galina: I joined the SCA in 1987 as Galina of the White Sea. I have considered changing it at times, but I always come back to the original. So far, I have avoided getting a title, but I do have letters of thanks from some feastocrats.

Jousting Squirrel: What is one of your favorite ways to give back and provide service in the SCA?

Galina: My first 'job' in the SCA was water-bearer. Great job, everyone is glad to see you—you can walk up to the King and get a smile. Later, when friends became voice heralds, I was supporting all the heralds with grapes, cookies, hot cocoa. I was interested in archery, but the long-term effects of an auto accident ended that plan. I'm hoping to move into voice heraldry and more gate time.

Jousting Squirrel: What are some of the less visible and less glamorous parts of service in the SCA?

Galina: I don't think anyone quite appreciates how tough it is to make sure that the SCA complies with all mundane laws. This includes policing adolescents who are being, well, adolescents—not glamorous, but necessary.



In service to the Canton: an interview with a gentle

Jousting Squirrel: *Who has been someone in the Society for Creative Anachronism who you've seen that demonstrates service in a remarkable way?*

Galina: Living in Madrone, I was meeting a lot of high-ranking people, some of whom became good friends. One of the people I truly admire is Her Excellency, Baroness Saewynn Silfer Rafin. We joined the Society at about the same time and she soon became a voice herald. She has served in rain, heat, cold and some really impressive windstorms. She always steps up, even in a surgical boot, for thirty plus years.

Jousting Squirrel: *As a registered educational non-profit, how does SCA provide service and education to the people of Akornebir, here in the Walla Walla valley?*

Galina: Demos are our best way to reach out and educate people: music, dance, poetry, garb, arts, crafts, foods, archery, jousting, fencing. And of course, the highly visible art of hitting each other over the head with sticks. I admit, I would love to see us doing some demos at schools.

Jousting Squirrel: *What advice would you give to someone who wants to help out within their canton or barony?*

Galina: I would suggest water bearing for newbies, but if you ask an autocrat what you can do to help, they will be delighted to give you a job!

Jousting Squirrel: *What are some of your favorite memories over the years of SCA in the Walla Walla Valley, as well as beyond the canton limits?*

Galina: Favorite memories? In all honestly, coming to Akornebir and being so accepted so quickly. In larger Baronies, it takes a LOT more time.

Jousting Squirrel: *Thank you Galina for sharing your advice and your stories. We appreciate you and what you bring to our canton!*



More Cannon Photos



BOOK REVIEW

All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me

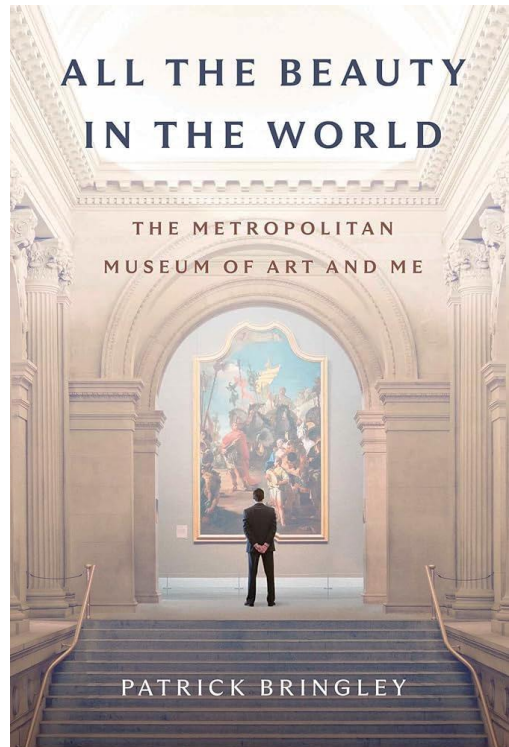
by Patrick Bringley

Review written by Cuthbert Weaver

All the Beauty in the World is a different type of history book, one that doesn't seek to shock you with a kind of bloodthirsty time travelling, but instead is a more mellow-paced reflective memoir set in our own world today, and at times, it nearly moved me to tears. Patrick Bringley pauses at a particularly emotional moment in his life, struggling with grief and needing direction, and answers an advertisement for a security guard at the Met in New York City. This greatest of American art galleries—filled with bounties of Renaissance art, medieval armor, Greek statues, and early Christian iconography—bustles like an international airport every day of the year, and the author notices that when he puts on the black suit and stands at his post, he starts to blend into the scenery. Some visitors are rude, others profound, and many of them, along with the art itself, help him step out of the present day into a sort of clock-less museum time, where the hours crawl like centuries and millennia can speed by in the minutes it takes to wander from one wing to another.

I'll admit that at times, like a tourist with only a couple of hours to spend in the museum, I wished he would speed up and the action of the writing would match the power of the art he describes. However, I learned vital lessons and a sense of patience, not just when thinking about paintings, history, and the endless current of time, but also how we treat less visible, but vital people who surround us.

Review Score: ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆



Canton of Akornebir SCA Business Meeting Minutes - Thurs. Apr. 4, 2024

1. **Acceptance of Minutes:** March minutes were motioned, voted, and approved.

. **Officer's Reports**

- a. **Seneschal** (Thorkell)
 - i. Reports are due
 - ii. Not heard back yet on polling
- b. **Chronicler** (Cuthbert) (Not Present)
 - i. Minutes were uploaded
- c. **Exchequer** (Kaitlin)
 - i. \$XXXX.XX balance in the Canton account.
 - ii. \$XXXX.XX in interest
- d. **Herald** (Thorkell)
 - i. Known world is going to be June. Thorkell will be going.
- e. **Marshall** (William)
 - i. No longer planning the purchase of loaner swords.
 - ii. Planning to turn over the marshal office in May
 - iii. April 15 is the Park demo for WWU
- f. **Arts and Sciences** (Gudrun)
 - i. Report was turned in.
 - ii. There are some events coming up with A&S classes available.
 - iii. Desire to have a scurry with largesse at some point in the near future.
- g. **Chatelaine** (Sadhbh)
 - i. Newcomer's classes are available online.
 - ii. Stephanie and Adrian joined for a practice and a scurry.
- h. **Webminister** (Ramon)
 - i. Website is currently down.
- i. **Social Media** (Vacant)



3. **Upcoming Events in the Canton**

- a. Park demo on April 15 for WWU Pegasus Club and English Department
- b. As You Like It in the Fall?

. **Upcoming Events in the Barony**

- c. Crown on May 17th
- d. Springfest will be in Waitsburg Park on the 2nd weekend in June
- e. Sergeants on August 24th

5. **New Business**

- a. Rapier Demo on Mon. April 15 with Walla Walla University English Department's "Pegasus Club"

6. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, May 2nd with location to be announced

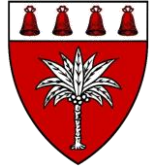
7. **End of Meeting:** Adjourned



Legal notice

The Jousting Squirrel is a publication of the Canton of Akornebir, part of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). *The Jousting Squirrel* is available at akornebir.antir.org and on our Facebook group discussion page, or can be received through an email mailing list by writing to the Akornebir Chronicler: Cuthbert Weaver at mgsurridge@gmail.com

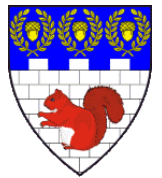
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Canton of ficers

- ❖ Seneschal – Master Thorkell Palsson, OP
- ❖ Exchequer – Honorable Lady Kaitlin
- ❖ Marshal – Lord William Le Navetier
- ❖ Arts & Science – Mistress Gudrun Ulriksdottir, OP
- ❖ Herald – Master Thorkell Palsson, OP
- ❖ Chronicler – Lord Cuthbert Weaver
- ❖ Webminister – Honorable Lord Ramone de Leon
- ❖ Chatelaine – Lady Sadhbh Dhuhb



Baronial of ficers

- ❖ Baron - Master Thorkell Palsson, OP
- ❖ Baroness - Mistress Gudrun Ulriksdottir, OP
- ❖ Seneschal – Duchess Dagrún Strjarna, OP, OL
- ❖ Exchequer – Honorable Lady Anna
- ❖ Marshal – Honorable Lord William MacKenna
- ❖ Arts & Science – Lady Litla-Sunneva
- ❖ Chronicler – Mistress Catriona, OP
- ❖ Herald – Lord Cuthbert Weaver



Kingdom monarchs

- ❖ King of An Tir – Ulfgar Hjartar Bani Thorvaldsson
- ❖ Queen of An Tir – Juahara al Azin

