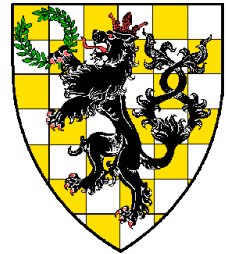
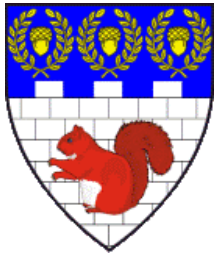


# The Jousting Squirrel



*June, Anno Societatis LX (2025)*

*Newsletter for The Canton of Akornebir*

*A Branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA Inc.)*

## Waitsburg Iron & Ink

This past weekend, from June 13 to 15, the popular hands-on arts and sciences event, Iron and Ink, was held within the boundaries of the Canton of Akornebir and formally hosted by the College of Lyonsmarche. Dame Katherine and Lord Neil were incredibly gracious and welcomed dozens of campers, cooks, artists and guests onto their Waitsburg property for the weekend where artisans and Laurels hosted intricate and complex classes on things like making ink, stamping fabric patterns, cooking over hot coals, enamel painting, lamp work bead crafting and more. There were even opportunities for attendees to bury and fire pottery in an below-ground earth-mound kiln, and groups of heavy fighters and dancers mingled while practicing their respective footwork in perfect weather.

Iron and Ink has long been a favorite among the Inlands arts and sciences (A&S) community for its heavy focus on hands-on workshops that each take a couple hours. Attendees are also given a no-garb option to keep contaminants away from clothing.

Members also enjoyed delicious group meals cooked by Mistress Gudrun, an evening potluck in garb, a cut-and-thrust session, and a Sunday morning where potters uncovered their ceramics from where the pieces baked under the soil.



# In this issue

- ❖ “Waitsburg Iron and Ink” / Front Cover – pg. 1
- ❖ In this Issue / About the Canton – pg. 2
- ❖ The Squirrel Press – pg. 3
- ❖ Pegasus Club Fights – pg. 4
- ❖ Events Calendar – pg. 5
- ❖ Interview with a Gentle – pg. 6-7
- ❖ Canton Photos – pg. 8
- ❖ Local Artwork – pg. 9
- ❖ Book Review: A History of the World in Six Glasses – pg. 10
- ❖ Business Meeting Minutes – pg. 11
- ❖ Legal Notice and Curia – pg. 12



## 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](http://www.sca.org)

[www.sca.org/new-to-the-sca/](http://www.sca.org/new-to-the-sca/)

[www.antir.org](http://www.antir.org)

[akornebir.antir.org](http://akornebir.antir.org)

[wastekeep.antir.org](http://wastekeep.antir.org)



# The Squirrel press

## Springfest site success

The Barony of Wastekeep held its annual start-of-the-camping season event known as Springfest in a new location this year—fighting, feasting and firing bows under the shade at Basin City Memorial Park, north of the Tri-Cities. Carefully designed by Honorable Lady Melike and Sir Seamus de Mantel to be a “tournament of tournaments”, Springfest held its traditional rapier, heavy, and youth championships, a new heralded archery tournament for adults, as well as the barony’s first ever cut-and-thrust championship, which was won by Honorable Lord Zornhut. The festivities were enlivened by decorative banners hung for each fighter and various colored ribbons that were attached to tent ropes to reward various pavilion groups for their hospitality. Court was warmly held by Baron William and Baroness Anna, rewarding several of their subjects like Lady Runa with a Blasted Tree and Honorable Lady Rashida as the newest Honorary Citizen of Wastekeep.



## new events, fighters, & officers

Recent monthly business meetings, both within the canton and the wider baronial family, have been a flurry of in-person activity as summer brings changes to each group. The baronial business meeting was held in person for the month of June at Round Table Pizza as part of a continued new initiative to get the barony together for social business meals once a quarter.

A planning group then went to the Three Rivers Convention Center in Tri-Cities to visit the site for July Coronation, which is being hosted by a team from Akornebir, Wastekeep and beyond. Happening on the weekend of July 11-13, this particular event will be a rarity for July Coronation as it will be held inside, and therefore attendees will get to enjoy the air-conditioning that isn't available at usual camping summer coronations.

Just a few days before the Wastekeep in-person meeting, Akornebir held its own monthly business session in Pioneer Park, the usual site of its weekly rapier practices. Both the meetings and practices have seen an increase in new attendees with the fighter group continuing to grow with between 3-5 new fencers learning each session. In an important piece of canton business, officers voted to elect Dame Katherine again as Seneschal replacing Master Thorkell.

# pegasus club fights



Rapier fighters and local society members from the Canton of Akornebir and Barony of Wastekeep welcomed dozens of college students from Walla Walla University for a sword-fighting demonstration and picnic in the park last month. The English majors and other students came as part of the university's Pegasus Club sponsored by their professor Lauren Peterson, also known by her new SCA name Scolastica De More. The Monday evening gathering, which took place as their school's academic year began to wind down, was a great opportunity for the young literature scholars to experience first hand the type of blades used by famous storybook characters like Romeo, Hamlet, The Count of Monte Cristo, the Three Musketeers, and Inigo Montoya. Hands-on sword-fighting lessons were given by local rapier fighters James, Cuthbert, Thorkell, William Le Navetier, Baron William, Alex, Steve and others. Those students waiting their turn enjoyed relaxing under the tall trees, eating pizza, and chatting about Norse culture with Kjartan. This is the third year that history or English clubs from WWU have joined Akornebir for a fight practice, and we hope it long continues!





# Upcoming Canton Activities And regional events

## canton activities

- ❖ Rapier fight practices are on Mondays @ 6:30pm in Pioneer Park, Walla Walla.
- ❖ Carpool to Wastekeep fight practice on Wednesday, June 25. Contact Cuthbert if interested.
- ❖ Canton business meeting will be on Thur. July 3 at 6:30pm in Walla Walla. Location to be announced.
- ❖ Online Zoom Wastekeep business meeting on Thursday, July 10 at 6:30pm.

## regional events

- ❖ Athenaeum: June 28 in Madrone (King County, WA)
- ❖ July Coronation: July 11-13 in Wastekeep (Tri-Cities, WA)
- ❖ Sergeantry Trials: August 9 in Wastekeep (Tri-Cities, WA)
- ❖ Wealdsmere Newcomers: August 9 in Wealdsmere (Spokane, WA)
- ❖ Baron's Ball: October 3-5 in the Barony of Wastekeep (Tri-Cities, WA)

# In service to the canon: an interview with a gentle

**Jousting Squirrel:** *What is your name, both in the SCA and in real or "mundane" life, as well as your hometown, and number of years you've been involved in the SCA?*

**Cuthbert:** My name is Cuthbert Weaver in the SCA and Martin Surridge in mundane life. I'm originally from Watford, England, but Northern California is more recently where I'm from. I'm coming up on three years as a member of the SCA.

**Jousting Squirrel:** *What are some of the things you enjoy doing in the SCA, your favorite activities, hobbies or ways to get involved?*

**Cuthbert:** I love to play classical guitar, especially medieval hymns, and I'm marshal for our local rapier fighters' group. I've enjoy painting charters and watercolor scenes, but researching and writing about the Twelfth Century Renaissance is my biggest passion.

**Jousting Squirrel:** *What are some good ways for attendees to be of service at SCA events, and how have you enjoyed helping out in the past?*

**Cuthbert:** Show up early and stay late. Help set up and take down. I also like the organizational side of things: communications, recruitment, etc.





# In service to the Canton: an interview with a gentle

**Jousting Squirrel:** *What do you think are some of the less visible and less obvious ways that people serve in the SCA?*

**Cuthbert:** The financial side of running events and branches in the SCA seems challenging, and it doesn't garner a lot of attention. There are a lot of legal requirements with insurance and liability that have rules we need to follow. I appreciate those gentles who serve the society in this way, making it so that we can have fun.

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

**Cuthbert:** When I first joined the SCA, Duchess Stjarna personally made custom clothing for me, teaching me how to sew and measure the fabric over multiple sessions together. I still wear those outfits nearly every event, and I'm very grateful for the ways that she serves others and the society at large.

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

**Cuthbert:** My first event was a Newcomers weekend in Waitsburg, and I learned so much about medieval life and

how their world functioned. I know others who attended also came away with a great appreciation for the many volunteers who taught us about heraldry, armored combat, etiquette and more. I'm excited about the possibility of another Newcomer's event here soon.

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

**Cuthbert:** Volunteer for an office, attend the business meetings, connect with others, and stay involved. Come to as many events as you can.

**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?*

**Cuthbert:** Locally, I really like when we transform the Waitsburg Town Hall into a medieval tavern, complete with a rapier food fight accompanied by live music in the background. I also love learning at the larger convention-style events like Collegium and Kingdom Arts & Sciences.



# More Canton photos





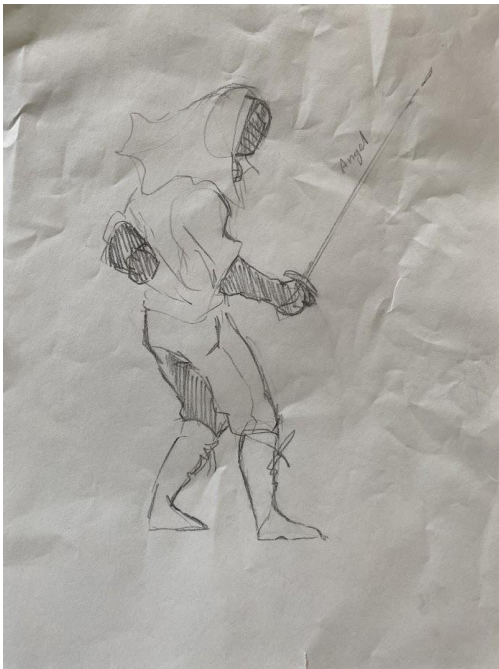
# local artwork



Master Thorkell Pallson, OP



Lord William Le Navetier



Lord Cuthbert Weaver

**Pencil Sketches  
done by Angel  
Jousma of  
Akornebir at  
Fight Practice**

# BOOK REVIEW

***A History of the World in 6 Glasses*** by Tom Standage

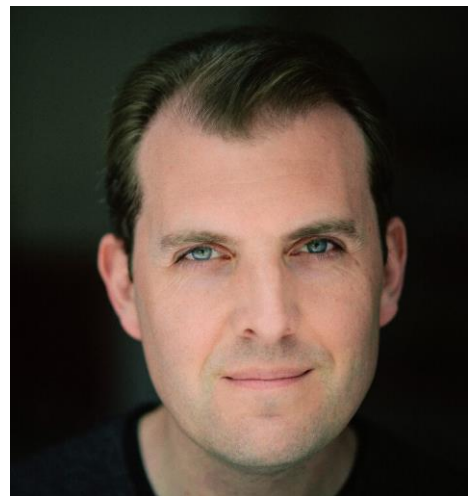
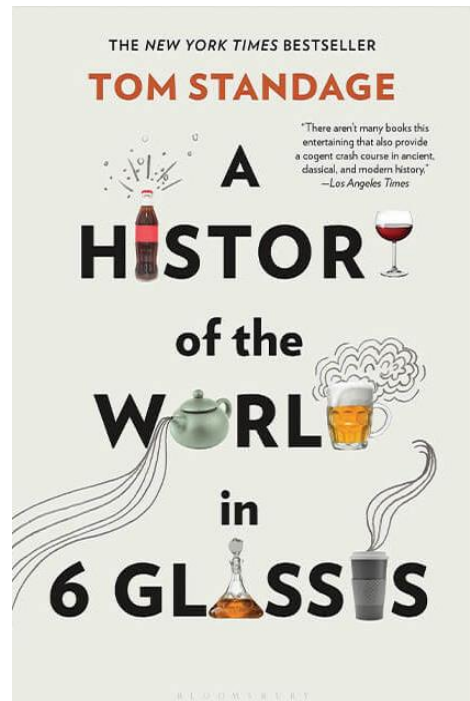
Review written by Cuthbert Weaver

Many people when they sit down for their morning latte, afternoon tea, or an evening glass of wine might consider their drink's *place* of origin, whether it's an Ethiopian coffee, Japanese matcha, French champagne, or something else entirely. But how often does someone think about the *history* of these beverages? That's what Tom Standage does in his excellent book *A History of the World in Six Glasses*. Standage chronicles the dawn and expansion of global civilizations through their consumption of beer, wine, spirits, coffee, tea, and cola.

Each section and each corresponding beverage follows the story of a different part of the world and how its past would not have been possible if it weren't for those who drank one of these six history-changing liquids. He begins with the Mesopotamians who used beer as a currency, cash crop, and staple calories for their diet. He then chronicles the history of wine and proposes that the cultivation of grapes helped give rise to the great societies of ancient Rome and Greece. Hard liquor and coffee made the modern world possible, Standage argues, during the eras of revolution, enlightenment, and exploration. Those British explorers who then became colonizers fueled a global empire using tea from Asia, and modern American capitalism built on these trade networks to ship Coca-Cola to every marketplace on the planet.

Like a good history book should, Standage's non-fiction narrative spins statistics into great stories. It deserves a place on any SCA bookshelf and would be well enjoyed by the society's wine aficionados, food historians, craft beer brewers, and those who can't start an event without their morning hit of caffeine.

**Review Score:** ★★★★★☆





## Canton of Akornebir SCA Business Meeting Minutes – Thur. June 5, 2025

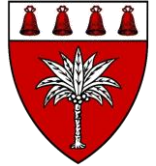
1. **Call to Order:** Meeting began at 6:30 pm with Kjartan, Svala, Thorkell, Sadhbh, Allison, Kaitlin, Katherine, Ramon, Cuthbert, Scolastica, Alex
2. **Acceptance of Minutes:** May minutes were approved by vote
3. **Officer's Reports**
  - a. **Seneschal** (Thorkell)
    - i. Dame Katherine has volunteered to be the new seneschal. Vote was held and she was confirmed
  - b. **Chronicler** (Cuthbert)
    - i. May minutes have been uploaded to Facebook and website. Newsletter will be published this month
  - c. **Exchequer** (Kaitlin)
    - i. Two checks have cleared
    - ii. \$XXXX.XX balance in the Canton account with a check for XX.XX deposited
    - iii. Reimbursement checks was approved for \$330.48 for Kaitlin's hotel room
  - d. **Herald** (Thorkell)
    - i. Digital submission works well and is encouraged
  - e. **Marshall** (Cuthbert)
    - i. We have 7-8 new fighters in our local rapier group
    - ii. Scolastica said the demo for WWU Pegasus Club went well. 20 students came to see and try rapier
  - f. **Arts and Sciences** (Gudrun) (Not Present)
    - i. Iron & Ink is coming up next weekend at Kathy's in Waitsburg
  - g. **Chatelaine** (Sadhbh)
    - i. We have had several new people come to fighter's practice including some visitors today
  - h. **Webminister** (Ramon)
    - i. Kingdom is evaluating an email switch away from Microsoft
  - i. **Social Media** (Vacant)
    - i. It's been reasonably quiet
4. **Upcoming Events in the Canton**
  - a. Disting Feast / As You Like It is scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup> 2026 and the DRF should be in tonight
  - b. It will be at the Waitsburg Town Hall with a Russian served feast
5. **Upcoming Events in the Barony**
  - a. Springfest is June 6-8 in Basin City near Tri-Cities
  - b. July Coronation from July 11-13 needs volunteers
  - c. Sergeants is on August 9 with Cuthbert stewarding and the DRF needs to get in
6. **Upcoming Events in the Kingdom or Inlands**
  - a. Iron & Ink is June 13-15 hosted by Lyonsmarche but in the Canton of Akornebir
    - i. Hands-on event with no garb and signups should be available soon
  - b. Virtual Known World Hearld and Scribal Symposium will be June 13-15
7. **No Old Business**
8. **New Business**
  - a. Waitsburg stores would like us to hold another event in the park
9. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, July 3rd @ 6:30pm
10. **End of Meeting:** Adjourned @ 7.00 pm



# 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](http://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](mailto:mgsurridge@gmail.com)

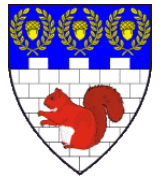
*The Jousting Squirrel* is written & designed for the Canton of Akornebir by Cuthbert Weaver.



*The Jousting Squirrel* is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2024 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For info on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors. Submissions and ideas are welcome!

## Canton officers

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



## Baronial officers

- ❖ Baron – Master William McKenna, OP
- ❖ Baroness - Honorable Lady Anna McKenna
- ❖ Seneschal – Lord Eldrick von Muth
- ❖ Exchequer – Lady Sadhbh Dhubh
- ❖ Marshal – Lord Oswald of the North Sea
- ❖ Chamberlain – Honorable Lady Kaitlin
- ❖ Arts & Science – Mistress Ciosa, OP
- ❖ Chronicler – Mistress Catriona, OP
- ❖ Herald – Lord Cuthbert Weaver
- ❖ Scribe – Honorable Lady Mairghread



## Kingdom monarchs

- ❖ King of An Tir – Sir Nicolai Rabenis Von Tachov
- ❖ Queen of An Tir – Mastra Ana de la Sara

