

The Official Newsletter of The Principality of the Summits



The Echoes

Featured In This Issue:

- Words from Their Alpine Highnesses
- Words from Their Imperial Excellencies
- Summits Defender Tournament Format
- The Alpine Codex - On Hiatus This Quarter
- Articles, Photos, Arts and Sciences, and More!

April, AS LXX (2025)

Table of Contents

- Words from Their Alpine Highnesses ...3
- Words from Their Imperial Excellencies ...4
- Summits Defender Tournament Format ...5
- New Deputy Chronicler, Briaroak Defender Shield, Stamped Fabric by Baroness Morrghan, Coronet List Boards, Summits Chatelaine Position Open ...6
- The Kingmoor King, A Riddle In Gold ...9
- The Alpine Codex - On hiatus...15
- Submission Information ... 16
- Principality Regnum ... 17

Please send any announcements, news, etc you would like published in the Echoes to summitschronicler@antir.org!

Greetings from your Summits Chronicler

Hello, Summits! As we gear up for our BUSIEST time of year (Egils! June Investiture! WAAAAAR!!! And all the other fun of a Summits summer) thank you to all who contributed to this issue of the Echoes!

Please keep your ideas, feedback, and SUBMISSIONS coming - art, articles, photos, and anything else SCA-related that you'd like to share with the Principality!

I'd love to spotlight YOUR talent.

Please send submissions to summitschronicler@antir.org.

In Service,

HL Elizabeth Chandler



Their Alpine Highnesses

Prince Ivan and Princess Mina



Greetings unto the populace of the Summits! As we celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the SCA, winter comes to an end and we look forward to spring and the bright future it holds for our land and its people. Our heirs are getting ready for a roman summer and we couldn't be more excited. We challenge everyone to find their passion this summer and explore it to its fullest our best days are ahead and we look to all of our populous with pride. It's always our joy to serve as your prince and princess.

As many of you know, we have been reading a statement at the beginning of our courts. This statement was made with collaboration with our cousins of Tir Righ and it is more important than ever.

"In these challenging times, when emptions can run high and days may feel dark, We ask you to remember your community is here for you. Like Sunflowers reflecting light towards one another when the sun is hidden, we can come together and lift up each other.

Community is the answer.

When kindness and tolerance are drowned out by louder voices, it's easy to fall into anger or blame. But we must be brave and embrace the power we all hold. We are stronger and more capable than we realize.

Community is the answer.

So, we ask you to show up, share your gifts, and let your light shine - we need you now more than ever. Be gentle with yourself and others. Life ebbs and flows. Trust that brighter days are ahead.

Community is the answer."

The Summits is a light in our Kingdom, continue to help others shine.

In joyful service,
Ivan, Prince
Mina, Princess

Their Imperial Excellencies

Dominus Marcus Longinius Rufus and Domina Livia Atella



Greetings Principality of the Summits!

March Coronet was an event that will stand out to Rufus and I for years to come, as he fought Sir Weylyn who was so beautifully inspired by Lehrerin Ayla. After 3 rounds in the finals, Rufus came out victorious. We are beyond honored to be the Heirs to Prince Ivan and Princess Mina, and hope to lead Summits with humility, kindness, and joy.

We want our reign to be one that encourages community, the importance of an inspiration, and family led activities. We hope to have Roman symposium style talks where we can safely discuss bigger issues at hand. Please feel free to suggest topic and ideas to either of us.

We want to close with a note of honor for those that have come before us. With everything that can be ugly in this world, let's show grace, love, and peace.. Kindness can be given for free, yet means everything.

In Your Service,
Dominus M.L.Rufus
Domina Livia Atella

Format For Summits Tribune (Defender) Tournament at June Investiture

From Summits Tribune (Defender) Antoine a la Langue d'Or

Here is the format for the coming Tribunes Tournament (Summits Defender)

The primary weapon for this tournament will be the spear.

The Spear must be at least 4' in length to a maximum of 9'

It must be thrusting only (no glaives, bills, partisans etc) and be used in your primary hand.

In addition to the spear, you may use a shield or a secondary weapon of your choice. (Yes you may use dual spear if you wish)

(A "madu" is allowed but counts as a secondary weapon for this tournament.)

If you are wounded in the primary arm, you must switch the spear to the hand of the remaining unwounded arm, or yield the fight.

All rounds shall be best 2/3; double kills shall be refought immediately.

The finals shall be fought best 5/9, double kills shall count as double wins unless it would end the tournament.

The fifth and final point must be scored undisputed.

New Briaroak Defender Shield

During Briaroak Birl, the outgoing heavy champion Bjorn Hammerhand announced a new defender shield for the Shire of Briaroak. Commissioned by Bjorn Hammerhand and crafted and painted by Mouse of Glyn Dwfn. The shield was won by Randulf Greenwall.



Gimli (Baroness Milisandia of Glyn Dwfn's sweet pupper) enjoying a treat from the bountiful hand of Auntie Mel (Mistress Melisande de Frayne) at Bar Gemels.

New Summits Deputy Chronicler

Countess Astrid av det Fjord Landskap

Countess Astrid has graciously agreed to serve as Chronicler Publicity Deputy, which means two things: she'll be encouraging submissions to the Echoes, as well as collecting (via signup sheets at events and potentially other methods) email addresses from those who would like to receive the Echoes via email each quarter. Thank you, Countess Astrid!

Summits Chatelaine Position Open!

The role of Summits Chatelaine is currently open! If you are interested in this role, check out the requirements in <https://summits.antir.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/2023-Summits-Laws.pdf>, then contact Summits Seneschal Feradach mac Tralin mec Domongairt at summitsseneschal@antir.org



Vigilant Baroness Morrghan O'Siodhachain
(shortly to be elevated to Laurel at Egils Tourney
in May) shared these images of fabric she has
stamped with blocks carved by her own hand.
Gorgeous!!



For those who didn't watch the Summits Coronet livestream, here are the fabulous list board updates that were used during the stream.

Special thanks to Finn Grim Baneson and Kennric Maur!



If you're interested in getting involved in livestreaming in An Tir (either on- or off-site), please reach out to streaming@antir.org or look for the "An Tir Live Streaming Crew (UnOfficial)" on the Book of Faces.



The Kingmoor Ring, a Riddle in Gold

By Alan Roberts

(HL Alan Bowyer of *Adiantum*)



Figure 1 Kingmoor Ring¹

The Ring

In June 1817, a young man was employed at leveling an old fence on Greymoor Hill, Kingmoor, near Carlisle, England. When he pulled up a fencepost, he uncovered a gold ring. The ring became the possession of George Hamilton Gordon, the 4th Earl of Aberdeen² in 1822, sold to British Museum 1858.³ The ring is now on display in room 41 of the British Museum.

The ring is gold, with the inscription inlaid in niello (a black compound of sulfur with silver, lead or copper) Size: Diameter 2.7 cm, weight 360 grains. As so often happened in 19th century digging, a thorough excavation was not done, so the age of the ring is conjecture. The use of niello, though, makes it likely to have come from the 9th century.⁴

The Inscription

¹ British Museum, *The Kingmoor Ring*, 2017.

http://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=88694&partId=1

² Ibid

³ "Anglo-Saxon Runic Rings." *Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia*. Wikipedia, the Free Encyclopedia. 25 Sept. 2017. Web. 25 Sept. 2017.

⁴ David M. Wilson, *Anglo-Saxon Ornamental Metal Work 700-1100*, in the British Museum (London, 1964), p. 23.

There are thirty runes inscribed in the ring: twenty-seven on the outside, three on the inside. A similar ring was discovered in Bramham Moor Yorkshire, where the runes were made by cutting away the background and leaving the characters standing proud, the effect heightened by filling the interstices with niello.⁵

The inscriptions of the Bramham and Kingmoor rings are so similar that there is speculation that the Kingmoor ring is a less sophisticated copy of the Bramham ring.⁶

The inscription uses the Anglo-Saxon version of the Eldar Futhark

+FRARINÞTARINRIPFXTFTFCF / TF

Or, in Latin letters:

ærkriufttkriuriponglæstæpon/tol

The Riddle of the Ring

The exact meaning of the inscription has confounded experts almost from the day of discovery to this day. One of the earliest attempts to unravel the inscription was made in 1818 by Icelandic scholar Fin Magnusen. Page states "Magnusen was an industrious student of Danish runes, but his efforts on the English ones were ludicrous."⁷ The rather speculative interpretation was published first in Latin, then in Danish.

William Hamper made an attempt in 1823. "The runic inscription on your Lordship's very curious Gold Ring, which I have copied at the head of my letter, is composed with a mysterious abruptness, and arranged with a studied obscurity, well befitting its high thaumaturgical pretensions, as an amulet against fever or leprosy."⁸

Rask examined the rings in 1828, and pronounced the inscription to be in Welsh (to the surprise and bafflement of students of that language).⁹

As so often happens, whenever an object has an obscure use or meaning, it is declared religious or magic. "Various attempts to decipher the inscriptions on these two rings ... are not regarded as successful. Three words appear in each case, and the sense is very probably magical."¹⁰

"As it cannot be interpreted it must be assumed that the inscription is meaningless and of magical import."¹¹

⁵ R. I. Page *An Introduction to English Runes*, Boydell Press, 1973, p.104

⁶ Perry Mesney, *Anglo-Saxon Runic Rings*, Cardiff University, 2017, p. 12

⁷ Page, op. cit. p. 6

⁸ William Hamper "Observations on a Gold Ring With a Runic Inscription, in the possession of the Right Honourable the Earl of Aberdeen, Pres. S. A. In a Letter to his Lordship, from William Hamper, Esq. F. S. A.," *The Society of Antiquaries of London*, 1827.

⁹ George Stevens, *Old Northern Runic Monuments of Scandinavia and England, Now First Collected and Deciphered*. London/Copenhagen, p. 500.

¹⁰ British Museum.

¹¹ Ibid.

Possible Interpretation

Some runic inscriptions are pure gibberish; perhaps inscribed to impress the gullible and illiterate. The inscriptions on the gold Bramham Moor and Kingmoor rings, as well as on the jasper Linstock Castle Ring, are so similar that the odds of the combination of those runes being a coincidence is astronomical.

The ring has been associated with a manuscript charm by Bruce Dickins.¹² Bald's Leech-Book (British Library MS Royal 12, D xvii) contains a spell for staunching wounds that uses the same sequence of letters.

The Casting of the Ring.

I lived in London as a teenager. The British Museum was a favorite haunt of mine. I feel a comfortable familiarity with the Rosetta Stone, Elgin Marbles, but most of all the Anglo-Saxon artifacts from Sutton Hoo and other digs. The small ring might have been less garish than the grand helmet of Raedwald, but fascinated me. I have always wondered if the Kingmoor ring was an inspiration to Professor J. R. R. Tolkien. While it is beyond question that Tolkien was familiar with the Kingmoor ring, there is no mention of it in any of his rather copious notes. Nonetheless, as a young man I resolved that I must have precious, yes ... we swore on the precious.

The ring was cast in sterling silver (gold being out of my budget), using lost wax casting.

The ring was carved in hard wax. The wax comes in long tubes for convenience, and sliced into the desired thickness.

Then attached to a "sprue." The sprue is a piece of wax that carries the molten metal to the object being cast. The sprue is stuck into a rubber base; together, the base and sprue will form a funnel for the metal.



The rubber base is tightly fitted onto a flask. The flask looks like a tin can with the top and bottom removed, but made of iron. Objects to be cast must be centered as much as possible, and well away from the sides.

¹² B. Dickins, 'Runic Rings and Old English Charms,' *Arkiv für das Studium der Neuren Sprachen* (1935), p. 252.



Material was poured in called "investment." This resembles plaster of Paris, but breaks down in water when the casting is done. In early days, plaster was probably used; the material used today is composed of cristobalite, gypsum, silicas, and modifying agents. Cristobalite is a mineral of volcanic origin. It is now made of heating silicas to 2680 to 3040 degrees Fahrenheit.¹³

Typically, the investment is composed of cristobalite, gypsum, silicas, and modifying agents. Cristobalite is a mineral of volcanic origin. It is now made by heating silicas to 2680° to 3040° F. (1471° to 1671° C.)

The flask with investment is put under a glass dome on a vacuum table that shakes the flask and reduces air pressure in the chamber, forcing bubbles up and out of the flask. In earlier times, the flask would have been shaken – no vacuums were available!



The investment dries up quickly, like a hard plaster of Paris mold. The flask is put inside a hot kiln, which burns off the wax (hence "lost wax"), leaving a hollow form. Silver is melted in a stone bowl with a metal

¹³ "Investment of Powders and Method for Rapid Preparation of Investment Molds," Mashallah M. Quraishi, <https://www.google.com/patents/US6013125>

handle called a crucible. An oxy-acetylene torch is used today; in older times the crucible would have been put on a forge.



The metal is heated until completely melted. Flux is tossed in to force impurities. The now-empty hot flask is put on the shaker table and poured in. In older times, centrifugal force was used to force the molten metal into the furthest corners of the mold. Metal was poured, and the mold was swung around the head like a sling. Today, this is considered dangerous.



After allowing the metal to cool for perhaps 15 minutes, the flask is submerged into a bucket of water and the investment is broken up. The ring is cut off the sprue and polished.



Much of the final shaping and polishing is done with the following tools: jeweler's saw, rotary tool, jeweler's files.



No niello is allowed in the Craft Center jewelry studio, because it involves mixing an amalgam of Sulphur and lead.

The Alpine Codex

On
Hiatus!

Due to illness in the house and other extenuating circumstances, the Alpine Codex is on hiatus this quarter. We offer the sincerest apologies and will return next quarter!



The Alpine Codex Peer Review Panel

Viscomt Antoine a la Langue d'Or
(Administrator)

Baroness Yseult of Broceliande
Companion of the Laurel and Pelican

Vicaria Vesta Antonia Aurelia
Companion of the Laurel

Viscount Seamus O'Caellaigh
Companion of the Laurel and Pelican

Viscountess Temperance Trellove
Companion of the Laurel and Pelican

THE ALPINE CODEX

is a quarterly arts and sciences journal wherein research and process papers are published.

HOW DOES IT WORK, AND CAN I SUBMIT?

Absolutely! Anyone can submit their paper for review. To Submit just send an email to Summitschronicler@antir.org with the words "Codex submission" and (Authors Name)" subject line. Please send all papers in the pdf if formatted with pictures or docx if just text.

DO I HAVE TO LIVE IN THE SUMMITS TO SUBMIT A PAPER?

Not at all! The goal is to publish between 1-3 papers in each issue: one of the "slots" to be designated for a featured Summits Scholar.

Submission Information

The Echoes is published four times per year, and distributed in January, April, July, and October. Additional issues may be published at the discretion of the Chronicler.

Deadline: The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month prior to release, approximately one week prior to publication. Submissions should be emailed to the Chronicler at SummitsChronicler@antir.org.

Formatting: Acceptable formats include: Text attachments in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Rich Text Format (RTF); Photo/artwork attachments in JPG, GIF, or TIFF formats; text embedded in an email document. Please do not include special formatting (e.g. decorative fonts, multiple spaces, and the like) as those must be removed prior to insertion.

Content: Articles must be appropriate for the SCA's tax-exempt purposes (education and activities relating to the Middle Ages and Renaissance). The Chronicler reserves the right to edit all copy, and will print articles in accordance with the policies and guidelines set forth in the Society Chronicler's Handbook. **Event Announcements:** The Echoes will no longer carry event announcements (but will gladly feature event spotlights upon request).

All such information is available on multiple sites on-line and can be updated in a much more timely manner. Please consult the Kingdom Calendar.

HL Elizabeth Chandler


















Chronicler, Summits

summitschronicler@antir.org









The Fine Print: The Echoes is a publication of the Principality of the Summits, a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.), and is published as a service to the membership of the Principality. It is not a corporate publication of the SCA, Inc., and it does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright (C) 2019 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Please contact the Chronicler for permission to reprint articles, photographs and/or original artwork. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.

Reminder that previous Echoes editions and Moot Minutes can be found on the Principality Website: <https://summits.antir.sca.org/the-echoes/>











Principality Regnum

	<p>Seneschal Feradach mac Train Term ends: 2026 SummitsSeneschal@antir.org</p>		<p>Chronicler Elizabeth Chandler Term ends: March 2026 SummitsChronicler@antir.org</p>		<p>Deputy – The Cut & thrust Marshal Antoine à la Langue d'Or Term ends: ? SummitsCutThrust@antir.org</p>
	<p>Calendar Deputy Duchess Zanobia Fiorentini, OP Term ends: March 2024 SummitsCalendar@antir.org PLEASE NOTE: All events must be submitted via the Kingdom of An Tir via https://www.antir.org/events/event-request-form/.</p>		<p>Chatelaine Position open SummitsChatelaine@antir.org</p>		<p>Deputy – The Equestrian Marshal List of Marshals Position open Term ends: SummitsEquestrian@antir.org</p>
	<p>Social Media Deputy Her Ladyship Morgan Woodsende of Houghton Term ends: March 2026 SummitsSocialMedia@antir.org</p>		<p>Gryphon Scribe Adrienne von Brandenburg SummitsScribe@antir.org</p>		<p>Deputy – The War Lord of the Summits Ivan Shield Bane Term ends: September 2019 SummitsWarlord@antir.org</p>
	<p>Bleu Graef Herald Myvanny verch Robert Term ends: 2026 SummitsHerald@antir.org</p>		<p>Family Activities Coordinator Open Term Ends: summitsFAC@antir.org</p>		<p>Deputy – The Youth Armored Combat Officer Position open SummitsYAC@antir.org</p>
	<p>Chancellor of the Exchequer Sindri inn hárfagri SummitsExchequer@antir.org</p>		<p>The Minister of the Lists Godwyn Reynard SummitsLists@antir.org</p>		
	<p>Chamberlain Weylyn ibn Rustam Term ends: December 2022 SummitsChamberlain@antir.org</p>		<p>Earl Marshal William Geoffrey the Rogue Term ends: March 2023 SummitsEarlMarshal@antir.org</p>		
	<p>Minister of Arts & Sciences Milisandia filia Willelmi Filii Roberti Term ends: June 2026 SummitsAS@antir.org</p>		<p>Deputy – The Archery Marshal Murchadh Monaidh Chroisibhe SummitsArchery@antir.org</p>		
	<p>Arts & Sciences Contingency Deputy Open SummitsASDeputy@antir.org</p>		<p>Deputy – The Rapier Marshal Alejandro Romero Term ends: SummitsRapier@antir.org</p>		

Officers of Court

	<p>Order of the Shield of the Summits (formerly The Shield of Chivalry) Bowen Doyle May be given at Summits Spring and Fall Coronets.</p>
	<p>Defender of Summits Antoine à la Langue d'Or Traditionally changes once yearly at Summer Investiture.</p>
	<p>Alpine Scholar – Arts and Sciences Champion Davnshela Heartblood of Briaroak Traditionally changes once yearly at Summits Arts & Sciences and Bardic.</p>
	<p>Summits Bardic Champion Fel (Gwinn Aurelianus Felix) Traditionally changes once yearly at Summits Arts & Sciences and Bardic.</p>
	<p>Captain of Eagles – Archery Champion William Cristofore of Devonshire This event is hosted on a rotating basis and branches choose to be part of the rotation every odd year at Winter Investiture.</p>
	<p>Captain of Cats – Rapier Champion Alejandro Romero Traditionally changes once yearly at 1st Night (Winter Investiture).</p>
	<p>Sword of the Mountain – Cut & Thrust Champion Victor de Guars Traditionally changes once yearly at March Coronet.</p>
	<p>Hunter of the Summits – Thrown Weapons Champion Eoghan Ua Cléirigh Traditionally changes once yearly.</p>

Branches

	<p>Barony of Adiantum (Eugene & Lane Co., OR) Barons: Brynjarr Ólfass Baroness: Isis Sat Ne Nes Bastet Seneschal: Murchadh Monaidh Chroisibhe AdiantumSeneschal@antir.org</p>		<p>Shire of Mountain Edge (Yamhill County, OR) Seneschal: Eduardo Lucrezia - MountainEdge.Seneschal@antir.org</p>
	<p>Shire of Briaroak (Roseburg & Douglas Co., OR) Seneschal: Lillian of Seahaven - BriaroakSeneschal@antir.org</p>		<p>Shire of Myrtleholt (Grant Pass, OR) Seneschal: Bowen Doyle - MyrtleholtSeneschal@antir.org</p>
	<p>Shire of Coeur du Val (Covallis & Benton Co., OR) Seneschal: Marcus Longinus Rufus - Coeurduval.Seneschal@antir.org</p>		<p>Shire of Southmarch (Klamath Falls, Klamath Co. & Lake Co., OR) Seneschal: Alin Alesdair - SouthmarchSeneschal@antir.org</p>
	<p>Shire of Corvaria (Bend, Jefferson Co., Deschutes Co. & Crook Co., OR) Seneschal: Temperance Trevelove - CorvariaSeneschal@antir.org</p>		<p>Barony of Terra Pomaria (Salem, Marion Co., Lincoln Co. & Polk Co., OR) Baron: Clovis - TerraPomaria.Coronet@antir.org Baroness: Xenemia - TerraPomaria.Coronet@antir.org Seneschal: Emma von Bern (Gwyneth Blackthorne serving as interim) - TerraPomariaSeneschal@antir.org</p>
	<p>Barony of Glyn Dwfn (Ashland, Medford & Jackson Co., OR) Baron: Piaras - GlynDwfn.Coronet@antir.org Baroness: Milisandia - GlynDwfn.Coronet@antir.org Seneschal: Eris of Glyn Dwfn - GlynDwfnSeneschal@antir.org</p>		<p>Shire of Tymberhavene (Coos Co. and Curry Co., OR) Seneschal: Xenia Aleksandrova - TymberhaveneSeneschal@antir.org</p>

INFO TAKEN FROM PRINCIPALITY WEBSITE - CONTACT SUMMITS WEBMINISTER IF YOUR BRANCH OR ROLE HAS UPDATES.