

The Official Newsletter of The Principality of the Summits



The Echoes

Featured In This Issue:

- Words from The Legati Augusti of the Summits
- Words from Their Royal Excellencies
- Articles from:
 - Baronin Ayla Roth
 - Ml Muirenn inghean Uí Cléirigh
 - Dame Yseult of Broceliande

October, AS LX (2025)

Table of Contents

- Words From The Legati Augusti of the Summits ...3
- Words From Their Royal Excellencies ...4
- More Than Thrones: The Full Shape of the Dream by Baronin Ayla Thomas Roth ...6
- The Martebo Bag by Yseult of Broceliande ...7
- From Sheep to Scroll: A Scribe's Journey of Creation and Artistry ...10
- Submission Information ... 12
- Principality Regnum ... 13

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

Greetings from your Summits Chronicler

Hello, Summits! 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



The Legati Augusti of the Summits

Legatus Marcus Longinius Rufus and Legata Livia Atella



Salvete In Nomine Senatus Populique Summitorum!

With autumn colors and events behind us, we look towards a time with chosen friends and family. This also brings a urge to reflect. Legatus Rufus and I have a new love for The Summits and its wonderful populace. We have seen art in all forms, spoken and learned from the very reaches of our borders and the overall message has been one of joy, love, and honesty. We are coming into a time where the nights are especially dark. These are the times to share hearths, bounty, and company from near and far. We open ours, hoping to hear what drives your passions and keeps you coming back.

May we enjoy our bounty, always have a good story to tell, and continue to inspire those along us and the generations that will follow.

Lastly, we would like to thank you for your graciousness as Rufus and I serve you as your Legati. You have made this job anything but that. We know you will show our heirs all the love you've given us.

YIS Legata Livia and Legatus Rufus

The Alpine Heirs of the Summits

Greetings to the Populace of the Summits!

We, FinRis Christianson and Seraphina Ferrisdotter, are humbled and honored to be of service to the Principality. Many years ago, at one of my first SCA events, I fondly remember clapping and laughing along with the populace as a former queen performed a bardic parody of the song “I Will Survive”. While the memory of that special song has given us strength through the many pitfalls life has thrown our way, I believe that this year marks a new beginning, and it is time we stop merely surviving. Now is the time to begin thriving! To help others grow and to build bridges instead of burning them. Laugh more and worry less. To build the dream that brought us all together at the very beginning.

Norse by Northeast

It is our goal to bring Joy and Laughter into the Summits and to carve out a place for the youth of the Summits to grow and thrive. FinRis and I pledge to do our part in welcoming new members and helping others to find the fun.

FinRis Christianson

FinRis is well known to many within the SCA for often being the last person off the field, and when he's not putting new fighters into armor, he's often the first one on the field as well. His greatest passion is the noble art of the blade. When not on the field of battle, he is known for being welcoming to all and for being on a never-ending quest to find Fun everywhere he goes.

Seraphina Ferrisdotter

I am Seraphina. My first event was deep in the mountains, wearing a dress we purchased onsite that was 6 sizes too big, and my newest friend, Weazel, provided more safety pins than I could count to hold it in place. I spent most of the event in the pouring rain with my dress soaked to the knees and my boyfriend chasing me around with an umbrella. It is amazing the things we do for love.

Fast forward! I am a proud mother of four boys and spend most of my mundane time homeschooling them, and mending my husband's fighting pants. As a friend in the SCA said about my weaving, I am not afraid to fail. And as such, I am an independent learner, and love to learn new skills. I enjoy spinning, knitting, sewing, and various forms of cooking. I look forward to getting to know the populace of our principality and to learn of their many talents and adding to my fun stories.



**FinRis Christianson and
Seraphina Ferrisdotter**

Summits Winter Investiture!

The Principality of the Summits and the Barony of Terra Pomaria invite you all to join Their Alpine Highnesses, Legatus Marcus Longinius Rufus and Legata Livia Atella, as we witness the investiture of Their Alpine Heirs: Tanist FinRis Christianson and Tanista Seraphina Ferrisdotter.

A glorious tournament is to be held to vie for the honor of Captain of Cats, Rapier Champion of the Summits. In addition, Terra Pomaria will be seeking successors for their Rapier Champion and Arts & Sciences Champion.

This gathering will offer delicious food, beautiful presentations, and wonderful engagement activities for the Youth – Prepare to called upon to support our Youth fueled frivolity!

Site Fees

Fee Type Cost*

Site Fee \$30.00

Overnight Fee – Per person age 5 and older \$30.00 (includes both nights)

Meals Prereg: \$8per/\$40 all five

At Event: \$10per/\$50 all five

*SCA Members will receive a \$10 member discount off the “Site Fee” cost listed above.

Pre-reg for check/money order payment will close 11/23/25 (link can be found on kingdom event page). Pre-reg for Paypal invoices will close 12/03/25. All payments must be received by 12/10/25. If payment has not been received by December 10th, registration will be canceled, including lodging.

Lodging options may be available at gate, but are not guaranteed.

The skilled and talented Baronesa Ximena is our Pre-Registration Coordinator. If you have any questions regarding pre-registration, please reach out to her.

Event Main Contact (Event Steward): Christmas Caryl (TerraPomariaSeneschal@antir.org)

Kingdom event page with more information: <https://antir.org/events/summits-winter-investiture-7/>

The Alpine Codex

(The Summits' Quarterly Arts and Sciences Journal)

... is on hiatus for now. We thank those who enjoyed it, and we hope to welcome it back at some point.

As always, we welcome articles and written research from the populace to be published in The Echoes!

More Than Thrones: The Full Shape of the Dream

It's easy to imagine that the heart of the SCA beats loudest in court. In scrolls, in ceremony, in titles and regalia. It's easy to believe that the true purpose of the game is excellence recognized, effort rewarded, and tradition upheld.

And for some, it is. For some, the Dream is about legacy and lineage—and that, too, is beautiful.

But it isn't the whole story.

There's another kind of magic here. Softer, perhaps. Quieter. But no less powerful.

It lives in those who come not for pageantry, but for presence. Who stay not for status, but for the joy of creating something fleeting and joyful, together. People who might sleep through court but stay up half the night singing around a fire. Who might not know the officers by name, but know exactly where the best shade is at noon, or how to make strangers feel like old friends.

They aren't waiting in the wings. They aren't "on their way" to something more important.

They are already essential.

I say this not from afar, but from within. I was raised in merchant booths, and among pirates. I learned the rhythms of this game from the edges—where the stories are passed around campfires, and belonging is built one shared meal at a time. Long before I was ever called into court, I was being shaped by something real, and generous, and good.

And I've seen how often that version of the Dream is dismissed.

Too often, those who don't aspire to titles or thrones are treated as less serious, less dedicated.

As if fun, or irreverence, or a different rhythm means they're not truly playing the game.

But the truth is: they are sustaining it.

They are the ones who bring life to our events. Who fill our camps with music and light, who haul tables, cook meals, and bring friends along for the journey. They build community not through ceremony, but through consistency, kindness, and presence.

If we care about the future of the SCA—about its heart and its health—we must start seeing them clearly. Because when they stop showing up, attendance drops. Merchant rows thin. Feasts shrink. Budgets falter. And the warmth that draws people back, year after year, quietly fades.

This isn't just about honor. It's about survival.

So let's widen our view.

Let's celebrate those who live the Dream on their own terms. The ones who lead from firepits and kitchens. Who offer an extra chair, a late-night story, or a ride in an over-packed van to the event. Let's speak of their contributions not as lesser, but as luminous.

Because the Dream was never meant to be one thing.

It's a tapestry. And every thread—ceremonial or not—makes it stronger.

And if we are wise enough to cherish all of it, that's what will carry us forward.

With love,

— from a merchant's child, a pirate, and now, a Peer.

Baronin Ayla Thomas Roth

The Martebo or 2-ended bag
By Yseult of Broceliande, OP, OL, LAT
pam@bobwhitman.com, Pam Perryman on Facebook

The oldest representation we have of this type of carrying bag is from a 14th century stone carving in the church at Martebo, Gotland, Sweden. It appears again in 1502 in a painting by Jörg Breu the Elder depicting the Flight to Egypt in an altar at Melk, Austria. There are lots of later, post 1600 depictions in Sweden, etc. The sources suggest that this is a simple, everyday utility item made of cheap but sturdy cloth, used by just folks, not the nobility, for utility purposes. The basic idea can be sized up or down to use for everything from carrying armor to using as a hand-held wallet. When using it, load it fairly evenly on both sides for ease of carrying. [Photos 1 & 2]

Materials: use sturdy linen, hemp (or cotton) canvas or duck, or even tent canvas for a large bag.

Basic structure: The slit opening can be along the side or in the center running either longwise or crosswise across the middle of the bag. I like the slit longwise in the center of the wide side. It's easy to access and can be closed by simply twisting the bag. With the openings crosswise, you get a nice bottle carrier.

[picture with measure stick showing sizes / configurations]

Sizing:

For a large **over-the-shoulder bag**. Measure how long you want it to hang (front and back), probably between 4 and 5 feet overall length – see the Martebo sculpture. Then decide on the finished width – maybe between 24 and 40" wide, which means double that measurement of fabric + about 1 inch each side for seam allowance. The size is ultimately determined by your height, carrying capacity, and what you want to put in it – or the piece of fabric you have available! (source #4 below). See source #5 for a large one used on a pack horse.

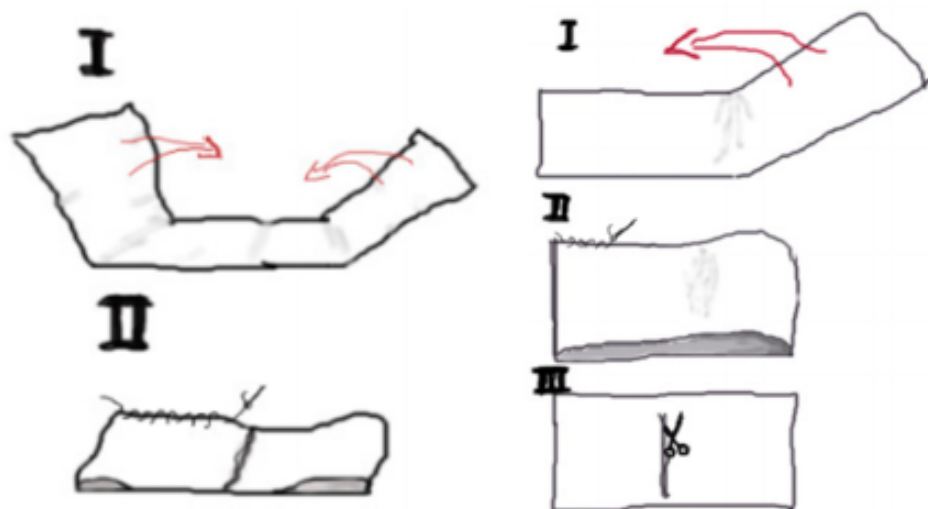
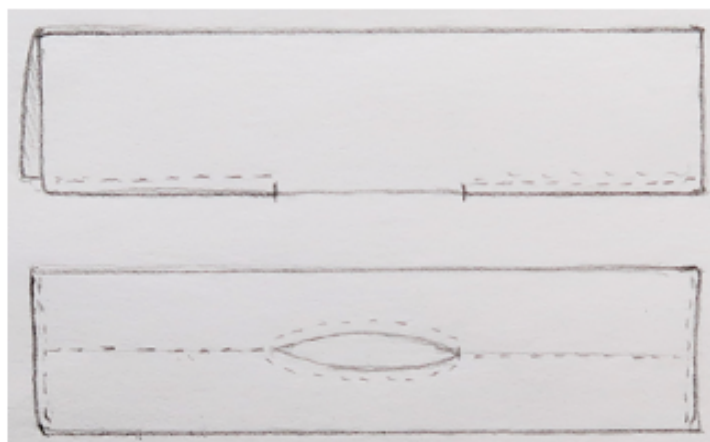
Medium sized day-bag. One woman made two (see #1 source). The first, finished size, 26" x 37" had "enough stash for a full day of traipsing around between classes and shopping. The large size was a bit of a disadvantage as it was rather clumpy and could be a bit of a bottomless pit when looking for any specific item." The second, **finished size 13" x 26"**, "is proving to be much more functional for carrying essentials and a snack/water bottle. It will hold an A4 notebook for classes, and the fact that it has two pockets helps keep things more organized than I tend to be when using a basket." Source #4 suggested using a piece of **fabric 55" long by 28" wide which would give you a slightly longer bag with the same finished width of about 13"**. [Photo 3]

Hand-held wallet. Make it probably no more than 2' long and wide enough to reach into and carry a phone, wallet or other items you would put in a small purse – maybe 4" across *8" around). The center could be elongated so that it could be slipped under a belt, making, in effect, two pouches that hang down and have access through the long central slit. [Photo 4]

Sources

- 1) <http://www.morethancod.net/as-50-challenge-persona/2014/4/15/3-two-tote-bags-from-martebo-church>
- 2) <https://indemejarecristi.wordpress.com/2014/06/13/the-sack-from-martebo/>
- 3) <https://whiljascorner.wordpress.com/tag/shoulder-bag/>
- 4) <https://handcraftedhistory.blog/2021/05/16/martebo-bag-in-linen-fabric/>
- 5) <http://albrechts.se/carrysack-from-martebo/> Carrysack from Martebo
- 6) <https://hylandhouse.files.wordpress.com/2020/07/market-wallet.pdf>

Sewing Instructions: Fold your fabric in half longways and mark the opening on the long seam – try using about 1/3 of the overall length or between 12" and 18" open for a bag 4' to 4.5' long. Judge the size of the opening by the size of what will go into the bag, or by the size of your hand if making a small one. Sew the seams on either side of the opening and hem back the seam allowance on either side of the slit opening (see photo # 5). I machine sew the long seams and then hand sew the turned back seams along the center opening so that no machine stitching shows. Reinforce the stitches at either end of the slit opening as it will take a lot of strain. With the bag inside out, position it so that the slit opening is in the middle of the top side, then sew the two ends closed. For a French seam, sew once with wrong sides together, then turn inside out and sew again with right sides together to enclose the cut edges within the sewn seam. Or you can just fold the seam allowance to one side and sewing it down again, or any similar seam treatment to help reinforce the bottoms of the bag and keep the cloth from fraying. Turn right side out and you're done! "The sack may be carried over your shoulder, or wrap it around your wrist and hand to carry it like a grocery bag. If you have valuables in it, you can also make a twist in the middle over the opening to prevent anything from falling out" (source #4).



Above: Two ways to sew a bag using a long skinny piece of fabric (source #5). If you leave some fabric between the pouches at each end, you create a handle to carry it with (see photo of the bottle carrier). Making these bags is a great way to use up leftover pieces of sturdy fabric – let the bag size be determined by the size of the fabric. These bags of any size make great largesse items!

(Continued on next page)



The sculpture of the two-ended carry bag from a column capital in the 14th century church at Martebo, Gotland, Sweden.



Jörg Breu's painting "The Flight to Egypt", 1502, Melk, Austria. Joseph's bag looks like half of a Martebo bag – just resting on his shoulder, not gathered with a drawstring like a simple sack.



Red bag (21" x 5" w, 6" side opening) is good size for a man's belt bag. The beige one (27" long) is a good size to hand carry or throw over your shoulder as a day bag for a notebook, lunch, water bottle, keys, etc. Make it wide enough for the notebook or largest item you might want to carry.

Grey bag is perfect for a belt bag (30" x 5" with 7" opening, from fabric piece 31" x 11". Just make it wide enough for your cell phone. The yellow one makes a nice bottle carrier. Size it around the wine / beer / soda bottles you usually carry and leave enough fabric between the pouches for a handle. The little bit of color trim on the grey bag and the red one in the previous photo is simple a piece of yarn laid along the seam line and couched down in a contrasting color. These are simple bags for simple folks, not something that would be highly decorated, but a little color doesn't take long to add.



Turn the seam allowance under and machine sew it down so it won't fray. I sew the seam allowance along both sides of the opening by hand so that there's no visible machine stitching.

From Sheep to Scroll: A Scribe's Journey of Creation and Artistry

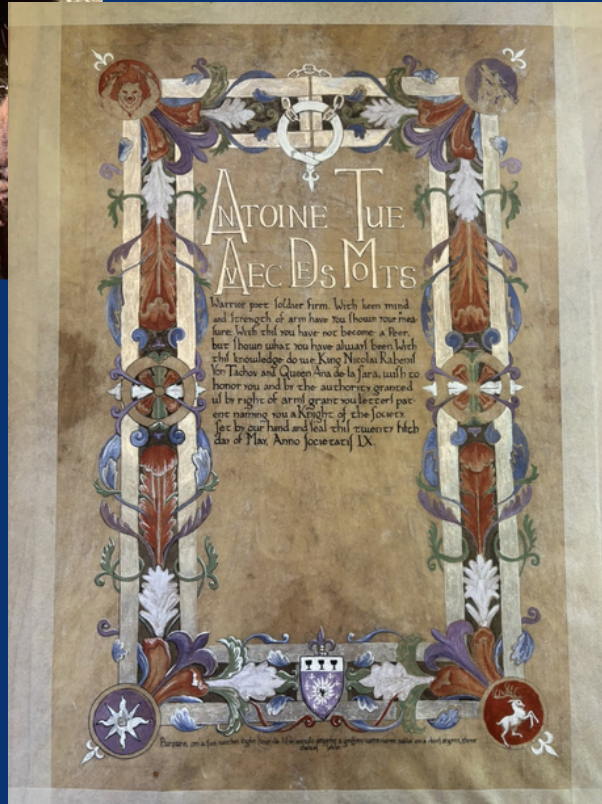
by Muirenn inghean Uí Cléirigh

The story of this scroll begins about 5 years ago when I raised Soay sheep. They are a small, heritage breed, originally from the islands off the coast of Scotland. Once butchered, I salted and dried the hide, knowing I wanted to make parchment someday. Through the winter, I studied and discussed the process with David Bianco as well as reading up on the bits of period writings on the process by Theopholis and Cennini. I soaked off the salt and began the liming process, soaking for many weeks in a hydrated lime and water solution until the remaining wool follicles could be rubbed off without much effort. Then there was much scraping on a pole donated by John Minard, a longer soak, then scraping again. Ideally, I would have used a lunella blade for this, but a large, dull knife with slight curve sufficed. Before stretching, I built a frame with reclaimed lumber and pegs I cut and tapered. I punctured small holes about 3" apart and an inch from the edge and threaded cotton cord. Between each hole, I pulled a bit of the cord over a corresponding hole drilled in the frame and pushed it through with a peg, tensioning it and holding it firmly in place. Once it was anchored around I tensioned a second time. With the hide was taut, I scraped it one last time to get a majority of the moisture out, then gave it a final dusting with the lime. This dried over the winter, though our kittens were persistent in pulling the pegs out and batting them to hidden places. Also during this time I brewed up a parchment size with some of the trimmed pieces from the edges. With this I added a little whiting to create a gesso and lightly applied in a crosshatch pattern as prescribed by Cennini. On March 26th, I cut it from the frame and trimmed the edges.

Through this process I kept thinking how wonderful it would be if our friend, Antoine, would receive his knighting offer, and this could be used for his scroll. Then on April 26th, the long awaited offer came and soon after I was honored and elated to be asked to make the scroll! After researching manuscripts that the Normans might have been familiar with, I chose the "Sacramentaire de Robert de Jumiéges" (11th C.) from France to be inspired by, particularly folio 159v. I testing 22 different combinations of period pigments, I chose to lightly mull lapis lazuli with brazil wood, a little vinegar and my gum arabic-honey mixture to create the signature purple through out. I created the bone black by charcoalizing bones in the camp fire before grinding and mulling. Although I didn't have any pigments from France, the Pozzuoli red and Verona green are from Italy where the Normans conquered. Finally, the white was made with a period lime solutions, and the ink and silver are modern.

Symbolism in this award includes many fleur-de-lis' and the colors purple, silver, and black throughout. In the four corners are symbols from influential people. The top left is a bear holding a red rose and war stick from his Mom, the husky of honor from Elizabeth Chandler in the top right, in the lower left is the Daos badge, and in the lower right, the stag of Antoine's knight, Sir Sverre Tjorkillson.

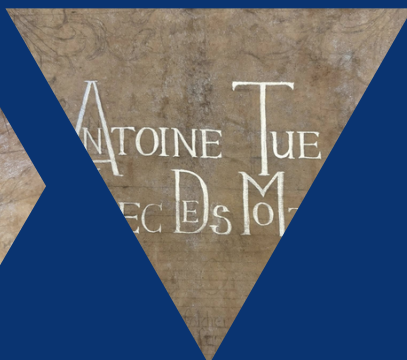
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Materials:

- homemade parchment from Soay sheep
- homemade parchment size
- Pigments: lapis, brazil wood, Verona green, Pazzouli earth, lime white, and bone black ground up with gum arabic. Modern ink and silver.

Wordsmiths: Eoghan Da Cléirigh



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

CONTACT SUMMITS WEBMINISTER AND CHRONICLER IF YOUR BRANCH OR ROLE HAS UPDATES.



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SummitsSeneschal@antir.org

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SummitsCalendar@antir.org

PLEASE NOTE: All events must be submitted via the Kingdom of An Tir website

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Deputy - The Rapier Marshal
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Deputy - The Equestrian Marshal
Position open



Deputy - The War Lord of the Summits
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Deputy - The Youth
Armored Combat Officer
Position open



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[Webminister Deputy.
Tyric Magnason](mailto:WebministerDeputy.TyricMagnason@antir.org)

Officers of Court



Shield of Chivalry
Coghan Ua Cléirigh
May be given at Summits Spring and Fall Coronets



Defender of the Summits
Brandubh de Santini
Traditionally changes once yearly at Summer Investiture.



Alpine Scholar - Arts and Sciences Champion
Margaret Ingen Domnaill
Traditionally changes once yearly at Summits Arts and Sciences and Bardic.



Summits Bardic Champion
Colette La Trouvere
Traditionally changes once yearly at Summits Arts and Sciences and Bardic.



Captain of Eagles - Archery Champion
Wilhelm der Munech
This event is hosted on a rotating basis and branches choose to be part of the rotation every odd year at Winter Investiture.



Captain of Cats - Rapier Champion
Morgan Wyrð
Traditionally changes once yearly at Winter Investiture.



Sword of the Mountain - Cut & Thrust Champion
Victor de Guers
Traditionally changes once yearly at March Coronet.



Hunter of the Summits - Thrown Weapons Champion
Bjorki Shielðsbane
Traditionally changes once yearly.