



# The Derneherald

## March 2019 Issue

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*A View of the Broch by: Finche Odhinnsdottir 2019*

**From the Seneschal**

Greetings from your Seneschal!

I've enjoyed getting to know some of you a bit more this past month or so. It's fantastic that we have so many talented and creative people in Dernehealde as well as heavy combatants and Rapier fighters not to leave out our Archers and Thrown Weapon people. Big thanks to our Officers and their Deputies. Amy Farnsworth is now Deputy Herald and Jeremy White is Deputy Exchequer as well as the Marshals and our new MIT in Thrown Weapons, Mary Ash, and our Rapier and Youth Marshal MIT, Adam Myers. If I have missed any one I apologize.

I hope you have enjoyed the meetings so far but I have to say I am ready for warmer weather and being outside! Once the weather is warmer and if permitted by OU I would like to move the meetings (weather permitting) to the outdoors on the green. This will allow us to fight, dance and craft all in a spacious area while being an active meeting / demo and sharing the SCA with others.

On the topic of meetings, we will be discussing the upcoming Shire auction at our next meeting Tuesday March 19. Please try to attend a meeting if you can. I would like to meet more of our Shire members and would like input into what we can do to create an inviting environment for our sustaining members as well as our new members.

Thanks to Katlyn we have spiffy handouts, bookmarkers and business cards. If you don't have a few in your wallet please ask. Also if you have any demo ideas please direct them to Katlyn, our Chatelaine.

We had several members attend Gulf Wars and look forward to hearing the tales!

We now have a storage unit and payment has been made for the year.

Don't forget to get award recommendations in.

Yours in Service (YIS) to the Crown and the Kingdom,

Lady Clarissa de Corvus  
(Katie Nolen)

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**From the Chronicler**

Greetings all!

With this Marsh issue, I have introduced a new column feature - *Da'ud Bob ibn Briggs Goes to the Movies*. This gentleman provides a movie review of different movies that may interest members in the SCA to member newsletters throughout the Known World. Check it out!

Position open: Deputy Chronicler - Contact me at [dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org) for more information.

Your faithful servant,  
Finche Odhinnsdottir

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**From the Webminister**

Greetings!

Another month has flown by, and it is almost time for spring. With that, I may be looking to re-work our website. If you have any ideas of things you would like to see there, please let me know. You can contact me at

[dernehealde.webminister@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.webminister@midrealm.org)

Your faithful servant,  
Finche Odhinnsdottir

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**From the Social Media Officer**

If you have a love of Social Media, regular Internet access, and would like to learn a skillset that translates well to mundane advertising/marketing, contact me at

[dernehealde.socialmedia@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.socialmedia@midrealm.org) for details.

Your faithful servant,  
Finche Odhinnsdottir



**Newsletter Submission Guidelines**

ARTICLES on period topics, history, art, puzzles, SCA life, bardic stories and the like are welcome additions to *The Derneherald*. A 500- to 1000-word article will usually fit in one issue; longer articles will be split into multiple parts to appear in successive issues. Submit the file in MS Word .doc or .docx format. You will need to fill out an SCA Creative Release form. Send the images used in the article as separate files using the format described below.

You must cite all references, quotations and sources in your article. Citing sources is very important to avoid accusations of plagiarism and legal action for copyright violation.

IMAGES, such as line art, calligraphy, illumination and photographs are also welcome. Scan any artwork at 300 dpi and save it at the highest quality JPG setting. Photos should also be 300 dpi, high quality JPGs. All images will appear in print as black and white, but the online version of *The Derneherald* is in color. Any artwork or photography submitted must have a signed SCA Creative Release or SCA Photographer Release form from the artist sent in with the work. Any person identifiable in an image must submit a signed SCA Model Release form with the art work. This is a requirement of SCA Inc. for print publication. Please see Finche for a copy of the release forms.

You can email submissions to: [dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org)



# Dear Abbot!

By the Abbot of the Abbey of Saint Leibowitz

Greetings my good gentle folk. I set pen to paper to give sage advice to any and all that may need it.

Pray send your questions to [dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.chronicler@midrealm.org) and she will forward them on to the Abbey.

**Dear Abbot: I am familiar with the Vikings, but how does one go about a Vik? –Sir Saxon**

Dear Sir- It is quite simple! It's just a jump to the left, and then a step to the right...- A

**Dear Abbot- Why are babies so ugly when they are born? –Judgmental**

Dear Judgmental- You try spending nine months under water and see how good you look! –A

**Dear Abbot- If the historian Bede was so smart, why did he die? – Researching**

Dear Researching – He was history. –A

**Dear Abbot- What do you call a four sided triangle? –Mathman**

Dear Mathman – A square –A

**Dear Abbot- Why did ancient people bury so many buildings? – Digger**

Dear Digger – I heard there is an opening for a village idiot in Manchester. –A

**Dear Abbot – What does Belgium produce more of than anyone else? – Gutten**

Dear Gutten – Um, Belgians? – A

**Dear Abbot – I woke up next to my wife in bed. She has been dead for 20 years. I think she is a ghost. What should I do? – Spooked**

Dear Spooked – Before or after the screaming ends? – A



## Did you know....?

That the language spoken in the Faroe Islands is the closest, living language to that spoken by the Vikings?



## Da'ud Bob ibn Briggs Goes to the Movies

~David B. Appleton [davidbappleton@att.net](mailto:davidbappleton@att.net)

It really is amazing, the stuff that you can find on some of the streaming services, like Netflix. In this particular instance, Anna Sue had once again been "watching out" for stuff for me to review. As you may have seen from such things in the past, however, not all of the stuff that she finds while she's doing this end up rated very highly. This month's movie is, fortunately, not one of those. Indeed, it turns out that it's a nice retelling of the origin of one of China's most-loved characters, which retelling follows the original tale pretty closely. Admittedly, it helps that computer-generated effects are now to the point that it is possible to show



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Skriptorium\\_Holzchnitt.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Skriptorium_Holzchnitt.jpg)

just about anything on-screen and have it seem real. So the parts of the original story which would have been difficult (if not impossible) to put on film just a few years ago, are shown throughout this film: the kingdom of heaven and its denizens, the demon mountain and its denizens, are all brought to life on the screen. That alone does not, of course, mean that it doesn't have its faults, but still, it's a lively and attention-grabbing version of this origin story. And so it is that this month, Da'ud Bob reviews for you 2014's tale of the beginnings of the legend of **The Monkey King: Havoc in Heaven's Palace**.

Starring Donnie Yen as Sun Wukong, the Monkey King, Chow Yun-Fat as the Jade Emperor, Aaron Kwok as the Bull Demon King, Yitian Hai as Master Puti, Peter Ho as Erlangshen, Joe Chen as Princess Iron Fan, Xia Zitong as Ruxue, Kelly Chen as Guanyin, Calvin Ka-Sing Cheng as Nezha, Chung Him Law as Muzha, Gigi Leung as Chang'E, Hua Liu as the Dragon King of the East Sea, and Zilin Zhang as the goddess Nu Wa, the movie is a prequel to The Journey To The West, the oft-told story of the Monkey King's adventures on the road to India. It is the origins story, beginning with the birth of Sun Wukong and ending with his imprisonment for his crimes under the Five-Peaked Mountain. Along the way he acquires incredible powers, battling the armies of the gods and the armies of the demons to find his rightful place in the Heavens. It is a classic story of the scorned underdog who acquires great abilities but uses them recklessly and ultimately must pay a huge price to find redemption. The Monkey King captures the drama, beauty, humor, and fantastic action of the folk legend and brings it to the screen in a way never before possible.

Good points: The Monkey King's armor. (Well, the armor he took from the Dragon King of the East Sea.) The Monkey King is very monkey-like. I can only assume that actor Donnie Yen spent hours looking at videos of monkeys to so faithfully "ape" their movements and gestures. The "Giant Minotaur vs. King Kong" battle scene.

Bad points: The Demon Mountain reminded me of nothing so much as Mordor and the fortress of Barad-dûr from The Lord of the Rings. The CGI, and all of the wirework involved in so many of the fights and action was often just over the top, and sometimes way too frenetic.

Zero breasts. No blood. Forty-seven dead bodies (plus one butterfly). Sword fu. Axe fu. Dragon fu. Crystal fu. Demon axe fu. Lava fu. Clam bubble fu. (No, really!) Kung fu. Fireball fu. Quarterstaff fu. Hoop fu. Spear fu. Fan fu. Electric lasso fu. Dragon sword fu. Monkeys roll. Monkey King rolls. Demon King rolls. Gratuitous demons. Gratuitous CGI fox. Gratuitous tsunamis. Gratuitous huge fish. Gratuitous heavenly horses. Academy Award nominations to Donnie Yen as Sun Wukong for making his character so amazingly monkey-like, troublesome and mischievous but at the same time lovable, and to Kelly Chen as Guanyin for "You will find rebirth in the butterfly, not in the buffalo." A 47 on the Vomit Meter. 2½ stars. Da'ud Bob says, "If you like the legend of the Monkey King in The Journey to the West, you'll love this movie. Check it out!"



**View from the Broch**

~by Finche Odhinnsdottir

Ah, March, with its teasing promise of the coming planting season. This is the time when we are very busy getting the fields ready for sowing. It's also the time of new life for the animals; the bred ewes have been blessing us with a new spring crop of lambs, the cattle with new calves, and even the sow with her piglets.

The only things I won't miss, is the wind-driven rains and the bits of snow we may have gotten. There is always work to be done, even in the colder weather. The winter storms will have blessed our shores with more driftwood – so that needs collecting, and of course the other daily chores wait for no one.

Still, all in all, I will be happy with a bit warmer weather – even if it does bring the summer storms later in the year. At least, it will keep the apprentices busy and outside

Until next time!



**The Anvil's Ring**

By: T.H.L. Eidiard an Gobihainn,  
O.G.R. (X2), C.W., C.E., A.P.F., C.R.C  
Randomly Bardic Type Person, Storyteller and Standup Philosopher  
(The longest running continual column in the Middle Kingdom according to some guy on the internet)

**By: VINEGAR, The Dane, AFK, ASAP, AARP**  
**That guy with the big axe, according to some guy on the intertubes**

Hello this is Vinegar. It's pronounced "Vine-gar" so don't be stupid an' say it wrong.

Why am I doing this? Well let me tell you a little story, cause Vinegar good at stories.

A few days ago my goodwife, Num-num, says she want to go see Finche since it is hamming season.

Vinegar loves ham! Let's go!

So we sail from the Dane lands over the waters past the islands to where their brock is, on the coast of the Pictlands. Very dangerous place. People go missing all the time they go to visit for a little raid. They never come back and no one sees their ships again. They do have excellent bonfires there too. But we have friends so we fine. Besides, Vinegar is big axe swinging warrior, very fearsome. Num-num, my goodwife is only thing Vinegar afraid of. Might not be genius but not stupid! She knows where Vinegar sleeps...or wants to.

Any road, so we get there, beach the boat and leave six strong Danemen to guard the boat. When I say guard you could also say cower under their shields in the boat and hope no one notices them whimpering. We walks to the top of the cliff where is the brock, Eidiard's shop, the barns and fields. Big green fields with lovely sleeping grass thick and soft.

Vinegar needs to clean his ears more often. It is not hamming season. Num-num runs over and hugs Finche as they ooh and aww over all the little sheeps bouncing around. It LAMBiNg season. No ham. I am sad. Num-num says go find Eidiard, okay, good idea! Finche says he is in the shop and busy, but ask him if he wrote anything for her. She is smart and reads and writes and stuff and shares it with other smart people. So I go to the shop. There is smoke belching from the chimney and lots of words being yelled. I hear idiot, dumb sass, and sluck head all sorts of things that seem not to make a lot of sense but Vinegar used to that. Much does not make a lot of sense. I hear lots of hammering from a big hammer and several small ones. Daneking says Vinegar needs better helmet padding. So I goes to the big doors and yell for Eidiard (No one with any smarts just walks in his shop unannounced!) I hear him yell back something like smuck off. Then there is more of the hammering, big, little, little, little. I dunno what that is and just figure it is some sort of Doric greeting or something. I yell again (still not dumb!) and say Finche asked about writing. I hears "I'm busy! If you want it so bad you write it!" Big hammer, little, little, little. So I say "What do I write about?" He yells back "Write what you know! Now go away or else!" Big hammer, little, little, little. I yells back "Or else what?" That is when I think I was blessed by the gods.

When I say blessed you got to understand that when I woke up on the ground without my helmet there was a hammer next to my head. "It must be a blessing from Thor!" That is when the pain started between my ears. Not a 'I have been thinking too hard pain' but a nice to meet your hammer, this is my forehead type of pain. Not the first time for that. I stared at the hammer feeling blessed and in pain and noticed Eidiard's mark on the handle. Not Thor, not blessed, but still in pain. Good helmet though, might not have woken up from that blessing if it were cheap Belgian helmet. So there I am sitting on the grass, my helmet with a dent, Eidiard's hammer, and a brand new headache.

So there, I wrote it and it is something I know. Eidiard causes your brain to hurt.

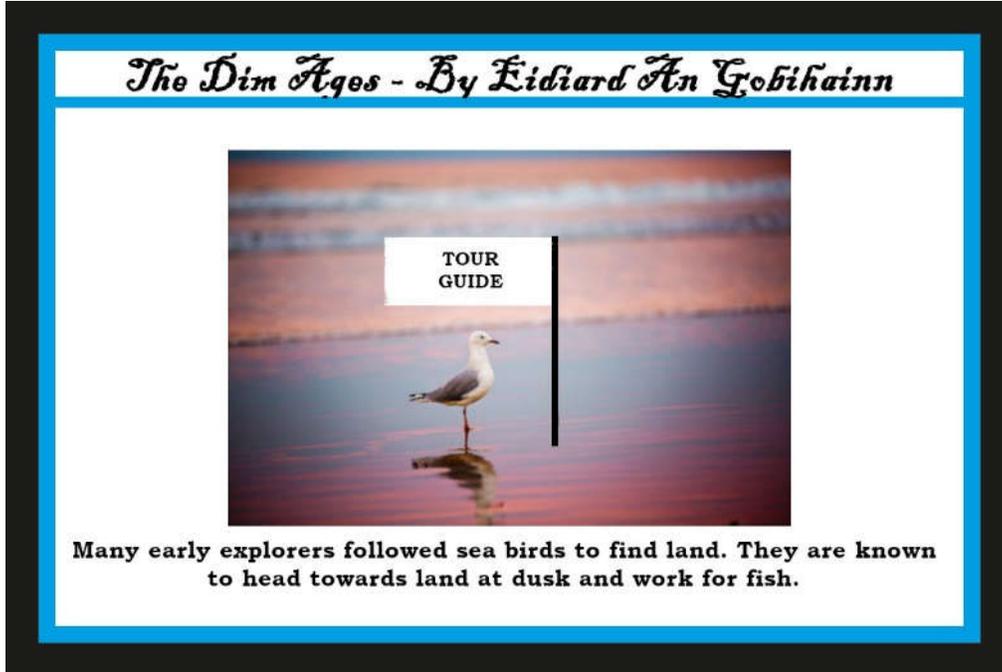
Till next time, hopefully with some ham,

Vinegar



**Learn Norwegian**

God dag. Hvordan går det? (Good afternoon. How are you?)



**Shire Officers**

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**Social Media Officer:** Finche Odhinnsdottir (Judith Winner)  
[dernehealde.socialmedia@midrealm.org](mailto:dernehealde.socialmedia@midrealm.org)

**Shire Calendar**

- Weekly Meetings:** Grover W123 (Tuesdays 7pm-10pm, Jan. 15 – Apr. 23), business meetings start at 8pm.
- Craft Nights:** Grover W125 (Every other Thursday 7pm-10pm, Jan. 24 – Apr. 18) – specifically: Jan. 24, Feb. 7 & 21, Mar. 7 & 21, and Apr. 4 & 18.
- Fight Practices:** Morton 201 (Sundays 1pm-5pm, Jan. 13 – Apr. 28).