

# Charter of the Barony of Winter's Gate

Being the desire of the Populace of the Barony of Winter's Gate to codify our traditions, our territorial boundaries, and the requirements of office, we do hereby ordain and establish this charter, subject to the approval of the Kingdom Seneschal of the West and the pleasure of Their Majesties.

## I. The Populace

The Populace of Winter's Gate shall be defined as those individuals who participate in the activities of the Barony of Winter's Gate.

A member of the Populace is a person who holds a physical address within the boundaries of the Barony of Winter's Gate.

Every member of the Populace has the right to be treated with courtesy and respect.

Any member of the Populace may bear the Populace Badge of the Barony of Winter's Gate on a shield, banner, garment, or in another appropriate fashion.

Members of the Populace are encouraged to recommend worthy individuals for awards, whether at Baronial, Principality, or Kingdom level.

## II. Territory

The territory of the Barony of Winter's Gate shall be defined as those lands in the State of Alaska, north of Hurricane Gulch, which have a zip code of 997xx. These lands are associated with the following postal zip codes and towns, and include those listed separately for Ynys Taltraeth and the College of St. Boniface, below:

99701 (Fairbanks), 99702 (Eielson AFB), 99703 (Fort Wainwright), 99704 (Clear), 99705 (North Pole), 99706 (Fairbanks), 99707 (Fairbanks), 99708 (College), 99709 (Fairbanks), 99710 (Fairbanks), 99711 (Fairbanks), 99712 (Fairbanks), 99714 (Salcha), 99716 (Two Rivers), 99720 (Allakaket), 99721 (Anaktuvuk Pass), 99722 (Arctic Village), 99724 (Beaver), 99725 (Ester), 99726 (Bettles Field), 99729 (Cantwell), 99730 (Central), 99731 (Fort Greeley), 99732 (Chicken), 99733 (Circle), 99737 (Delta Junction), 99738

(Eagle), 99740 (Fort Yukon), 99741 (Galena), 99743 (Healy), 99744 (Anderson), 99745 (Hughes), 99746 (Huslia), 99748 (Kaltag), 99749 (Kiana), 99754 (Koyukuk), 99755 (Denali National Park), 99756 (Manley Hot Springs), 99757 (Lake Minchumina), 99758 (Minto), 99760 (Nenana), 99764 (Northway), 99765 (Nulato), 99767 (Rampart), 99768 (Ruby), 99774 (Stevens Village), 99776 (Tanacross), 99777 (Tanana), 99779 (Tok), 99781 (Venetie), 99788 (Chalkyitsik)

The Canton of Ynys Taltraeth includes those lands along the Northern and Western Coastal territories of Winter's Gate. These lands are associated with the following postal zip codes and towns:

99723 (Barrow), 99727 (Buckland), 99734 (Prudhoe Bay), 99736 (Deering), 99739 (Elim), 99742 (Gambell), 99747 (Kaktovik), 99750 (Kivalina), 99751 (Kobuk), 99752 (Kotzebue), 99753 (Koyuk), 99759 (Point Lay), 99761 (Noatak), 99762 (Golovin), 99762 (Little Diomedes), 99762 (Nome), 99763 (Noorvik), 99766 (Point Hope), 99769 (Savoonga), 99770 (Selawik), 99771 (Shaktoolik), 99772 (Shishmaref), 99773 (Shungnak), 99778 (Teller), 99784 (White Mountain), 99785 (Brevig Mission), 99786 (Ambler), 99789 (Nuiqsut), 99782 (Wainwright), 99783 (Wales), 99790 (Solomon), 99791 (Atkasuk)

The College of St. Boniface includes those lands occupied by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and has the zip code of 99775.

This list will be updated and sent to Kingdom with the Baronial report.

### **III. The Baronial Coronet**

The Baronial Coronet shall be defined as the territorial Baron and/or Baroness appointed by the Crown of the West.

#### **A. Territorial Baron and/or Baroness**

Territorial Barons and Baronesses are the representatives of the Crown in their Barony. Upon their investiture, they are confirmed as the Baron or Baroness by the Crown. The founding Baroness will be styled as Founding Baroness Winter's Gate, Morgana yr Oerfa, the Iron Fist of the North.

The term of the territorial Baron and/or Baroness shall be two (2) consecutive years in accordance with Kingdom law. Consecutive terms may be served with the acclaim of the populace and approval of the Crown, in accordance with Kingdom Law..

At the end of each two-year term, a poll of confidence from the populace will be conducted by the Kingdom Seneschal, in the same manner as a polling for a new Baronial Coronet, except that no additional candidates, apart from the incumbent, will appear on the polling form. If the Crown feels that support for the incumbent is insufficient, the Crown will instruct the Baronial Seneschal to begin the polling process for a replacement.

All Territorial Barons and Baronesses serve at the pleasure of the Crown. Any Territorial Baron or Baroness may be removed from office during their tenure by the Crown, after soliciting a written poll of confidence from the populace of the Barony.

**B. Selection and Polling for Territorial Barons and Baronesses**

The members of the populace of Winter's Gate will develop a list of candidates through nomination and acceptance, and deliver that list to the Principality Seneschal.

No polling will be conducted with less than two candidates, with the exception of polls of confidence, without express written permission of the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal.

The Baronial Seneschal will coordinate with the Principality and Kingdom Seneschals to have a polling form sent to each Sustaining member of the populace. The non-Sustaining members may send their written opinions to the Baronial and Kingdom Seneschals at their own discretion.

The mailing date for each polling will be published in the Barony's newsletter, The Gatekeeper, if possible, as well as on the Baronial electronic list.

The completed polling forms and individual responses shall be sent directly to the Kingdom Seneschal for recording and to protect the privacy of the individual respondents.

Polling forms and individual responses must be signed in a legible fashion, containing both legal signature and membership number when returned to the Kingdom Seneschal to ensure validation. Unsigned polling forms shall not be counted.

Alternatively, electronic polling may be conducted.

**C. Membership and Residence.**

The Territorial Baron and/or Baroness of Winter's Gate must be paid members of the SCA for the duration of their tenure.

The Territorial Baron and/or Baroness of Winter's Gate must reside within the boundaries of Winter's Gate for the duration of their tenure.

**D. Roles and Duties of the Baron and Baroness**

The Baron and/or Baroness of Winter's Gate reign in the name of the Crown of the West, and in accordance with the Bylaws and Corpora of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.

The duties of the Baron and/or Baroness of Winter's Gate shall be:

1. The Baron and/or Baroness shall make every reasonable attempt to be in attendance at all official Baronial Meetings.
2. They may appoint Ambassadors or other ceremonial positions.
3. They will make every reasonable attempt to attend Principality Coronet Tourney and Investitures, and will swear fealty to the Coronets of Oertha.
4. They may hold any other Society office save Baronial Seneschal and Baronial Exchequer.
5. They may not perform any duty at a Baronial Event that would hamper the performance of their duties as the Baronial Coronet of Winter's Gate.

6. They must swear fealty to the Crown of the West on behalf of the Barony of Winter's Gate, in person or in writing.
7. They may not, as the Baronial Coronet, swear fealty to any other individual, other than the Coronets of Oertha and the Crowns of the West.
8. They may form treaties and alliances with other local groups as the Barony deems necessary.
9. It shall be their responsibility to recognize those of the Barony of Winter's Gate who are deserving of Baronial Awards and to select individuals, by whatever means are deemed appropriate, to serve as Baronial Champions. They shall also recommend to the Crown and Coronet those members of the Barony of Winter's Gate who are deserving of Kingdom or Principality recognition.

#### **IV. Meetings of the Populace of Winter's Gate**

The Seneschal or duly appointed representative shall convene baronial business meetings at least quarterly, ideally monthly. A quorum of four Officers must be present, including the Seneschal (or his or her representative). The purpose of these meetings is to conduct routine business, receive Officer reports, approve expenditures, and monitor the progress of key projects and activities. The site shall be determined in advance and published on the baronial electronic list. Spontaneous business meetings may be held to address a specific issue if a quorum of Officers is present.

The Populace and other interested parties are welcome and encouraged to attend the business meetings. They may enter into all discussions of any topic brought before the meeting. Notes of the meeting will be taken and preserved for future reference.

On matters requiring a vote, each attending member of the Populace, including the Baron and/or Baroness, shall have one vote. In cases where a member of the Populace holds more than one office, he or she will have only one vote. No person may have more than one vote. Officers unable to attend the meeting may send a written statement of their opinion to the Seneschal prior to the meeting. No proxy votes will be taken for routine matters of business.

The seneschals for any cantons or other groups under the protection of the Barony of Winter's Gate shall be considered voting members.

It shall be the responsibility of the Seneschal and the other Baronial Officers to indicate if any business may be in violation of mundane law, Principality Law, Kingdom Law, or Corpora policy. These matters will be fully investigated and a report given, citing specific example and references, before the matter may proceed. If a polling or business matter is determined to be against mundane law, Principality Law, Kingdom Law or Corpora, it will be recalled immediately.

#### **V. Baronial Officers**

The Barony of Winter's Gate shall maintain a complete slate of Baronial Officers, as required by Corpora and Kingdom Law.

The Baronial Officers are responsible to their Principality and Kingdom superiors for all functions of their office, as directed by Corpora, Kingdom Law and Principality Law. This includes obtaining and maintaining their Warrant of Office (if required), and training, maintaining, and warranting (if required) suitable deputies.

#### **VI. Baronial Awards**

The Barony of Winter's Gate may, at its discretion, and with the approval of the Crown of the West, devise Awards for the recognition of the good works of the Populace. These Awards may be given at the pleasure of the Baron and/or Baroness.

All members of the Populace are encouraged to recommend to the Baronial Coronets those worthy individuals who are deserving of such recognition. Written recommendations that cite specific examples or document activities are most welcome.

As Baronial Awards are devised and approved, they shall be added to this Charter as Amendments. A list of the Baronial Awards, both historical and current, shall be maintained by Estoille Pursuivant Baronial Herald.

Baronial awards at the time of the signing of this charter, are the following:

1. Order of the Estaille, given for long-term service to the Barony.
2. Order of the Silver Swan, given for excellence in the Arts & Sciences.
3. Companion of the Bear Claw, given for ferocity on the field. Can be bestowed multiple times.
4. The Gilded Lily, given for exceptional deaths on the field. Can be bestowed multiple times.
5. Companion of the Snow Drop, given to those who have served as the Heart of Winter's Gate. Can be bestowed multiple times.
6. Baroness' Recognition, given in thanks to those who have rendered aid to the Baroness. Can be bestowed multiple times.
7. Friends of the Barony, given to those from other groups who provide companionship and support (formerly the Stout Heart).
8. Companion of the Polar Bear, given to those who have served as Captain of Winter's Gate. Can be bestowed multiple times.
9. The Silver Star, given for children's achievements in Chivalry, Arts & Sciences, and Service.
10. The Order of the Pewter Pot, given for skills in Cooking.
11. Pearl of Chivalry, given for acts of courtesy and chivalry. Can be bestowed multiple times.

Awards from the College of St. Boniface (all now retired) consist of the following:

1. Order of the Chastised Wolf: given for courtesy and chivalry.
2. Order of the Moulting Raven: given for service.
3. Order of the Unstrung Harp: given for excellence in the arts.
4. Order of the Twisted Caliper: given for excellence in the sciences.
5. Order of the Ice Worm: given for the successful carrying out of an outrageous idea.

## **VII. Disbursal of Funds**

No funds held in Baronial coffers for other groups shall be disbursed without prior approval of that group's populace.

All funds to be reimbursed shall be disbursed within 30 days of the applicable event, according to the Procedures found in the Exchequer's Manual and Kingdom Law.

Necessary financial decisions may be made between regularly-scheduled business meetings by a majority of the Financial Committee. The Financial Committee consists of the Seneschal, the Exchequer, and the Baron or Baroness.

### VIII. Grievance Policy

All members of the Barony of Winter's Gate are encouraged to settle differences between or among themselves in a chivalrous and responsible manner.

The Grievance Procedure, as outlined in the Channels for Complaint and Appeal for the Kingdom of the West, is the preferred method of conflict resolution in the Barony of Winter's Gate.

### IX. Amending the Charter

Any member of the Populace may, at any Baronial Meeting, propose amendments to this Charter. If approved by a majority of members present, the proposed amendment will be published in the next Gatekeeper (the Baronial newsletter), along with the date of the meeting at which a poll will be conducted. If approved at the scheduled meeting by a two-thirds majority of the Populace members present, the proposed amendment will be forwarded to the Kingdom Seneschal and the Crown of the West for final approval. Once approved by all in accordance with Kingdom Law, will be printed in the next available issue of the Gatekeeper and will take effect immediately thereafter.

*Marc*

King of the West

*patricia*

Queen of the West

*Kenric Macor*

Prince of Oertha

*Daymar*

Princess of Oertha

*Gwyneth*

Baroness of Winter's Gate

*Ellisif*

Seneschal of Winter's Gate

*Cynhild*

Seneschal of Oertha

16 July, AS XLVI