

## January

# Happy New Year!



The Medieval Observance of the new year varied much in different countries and time periods. For much of the period called the middle ages, March 25th was the first day of many Europeans' new year. This day is the Feast day of the Annunciation and the first day of spring. Not all countries restarted their calendars on this date, yet most communities had grand parades and celebrations. France, for example, had its New year on April 16th, in Venice it was March 1st, and in other areas, it was on Christmas or Easter.

Frances and Joseph Gies summed up this complicated system in their book, *Life in a Medieval City*, stating:

*"...A traveller setting out from Venice on March 1, 1245, the first day of the Venetian year; finding himself in 1244 when he reached Florence; and after a short stay going on to Pisa, where he would enter the year 1246. Continuing westward, he would return to 1245 when he entered Provence, and upon arriving in France before Easter (April 16) he would be once more in 1244."*

In 1581, Pope Gregory XIII changed the new years date to be officially January 1. Pope Gregory also switched from the inaccurate Julian Calendar to the Gregorian Calendar. He Changed the calendar on October 4, 1582. The next day became October 15th.

January 1st already had a church feast day which began during the thirteenth century AD. The feast is called the Feast of Fools. In two hundred years of festivities, this feast became a wild carnival affair. Although the catholic church had pulled the reins on parishioners' wild lewd behavior, for the secular populous, there were no controls. Celebrations became somewhat controlled by the late fifteen hundreds, but a feast day is a feast day and an opportunity to celebrate.

The Coptic Church uses another calendar based on the Egyptian civil calendar. It has three seasons with twelve months containing 30 days. At the end of these three seasons is a 5 day month. On leap years this month has 6 days. The New Year starts on Gregorian calendar date of September 11 for non-leap year years, and September 12 during a leap year.



### UPCOMING MOOT & PRACTICES

Next. Moot: January 15: Wisconsin Rapids Lady Arianna

February 12: Stratford (Mistress Eala-said's, with Lord Pedro as co-host. Work Moot for HA.)

Heavy Weapons and Fencing Practice, See the Shire Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/102651729820675/>

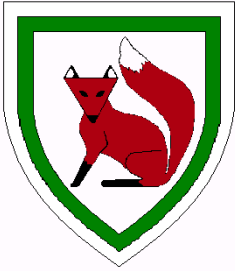
If you have anything you want to share, please contact Lady Anna at: [hollyheise@gmail.com](mailto:hollyheise@gmail.com)



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## *THE CHRONICLER'S QUILL*



Evercon was fun at the Cedar Creek Holiday Inn in Rothchild, WI. I met some good people there from other groups. I got the opportunity to teach both whittling and naalbinding. I am sorry, but I didn't take any pictures.

I am currently doing some relief sculpting of wood. I will share my pictures, if my work meets my expectations.

I am also sewing garb for our Byzantine Haire Affaire. Have a great year!

To Serve,

Lady Anna Meyer

### **TWELFTH NIGHT TRADITIONS:**

*In 567 the Council of Tours proclaimed that the entire period between Christmas and Epiphany should be considered part of the celebration, creating what became known as the twelve days of Christmas, or what the English called Christmastide. On the last of the twelve days, called Twelfth Night, various cultures developed a wide range of additional special festivities. The variation extends even to the issue of how to count the days. If Christmas Day is the first of the twelve days, then Twelfth Night would be on January 5, the eve of Epiphany. If December 26, the day after Christmas, is the first day, then Twelfth Night falls on January 6, the evening of Epiphany itself.*

### **Publishing Disclaimer**

This is the January 2017, issue of the Mewsletter, a publication of the Shire of Falcon's Keep of the Society for Creative Anachronism-Wisconsin, Inc. (SCA-WI, Inc.). The Mewsletter is available from Holly Heise, W1857 US HWY 10, Granton, WI. 54436.

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Contact the Chronicler, Lady Anna Meyer (MKA Holly Heise), for further information, [HollyHeise@gmail.com](mailto:HollyHeise@gmail.com) This publication will be available on the Falcon's Keep webpage at [www.falconskeep.org](http://www.falconskeep.org). If you require a paper copy, please contact the Chronicler. If you wish to make a contribution to defray mailing costs, please give it to the Exchequer of Falcon's Keep.

## *THE TIME OF OUR LIVES: FALCON'S KEEP MOOT MINUTES*



December 11 Moot

At the Home of Mistress Ealasaid and Baron Guttorm

As taken by Lord Pedro de Benavides

Officer Reports

Seneschal:

December Report submitted.

Trailer is a tentative 'go'; Lady Arianna will confirm with the Kingdom Exchequer.

Discussion ensued. Summary of the discussion: research needs to be done before a purchase is made; Kate advised the moot to meditate on what they expect of a trailer for the next moot.

Quinn is now officially MOAS, as paperwork has been completed. Lady Kiku will be deputy.

Exchequer (as reported to Lady Kate):

\$13,221.35 is current balance.

Chatelaine:

Domesday report sent. Lady Emelye also reported that she submitted a brief schedule to Evercon for the demo, which will alternate between fighting and chainmail making. The 'petting zoo' for A&S will also be present. There will be enough fighters for the demo.

Chronicler: Please submit photos/content for events you attend if possible.

Herald:

Baroness Alex is working with Clae to submit his device and name. The device passed, but there is trouble with the name.

Falcons' Gate will be reduced to a Household to better reflect current member conditions.

Webminister:

Alex will attend to updates when possible; has already made some headway.

Rapier Marshal:

Initially, it was reported that December 12 would be the final practice at UWSP for the year. After a brief update, it was amended to December 19, should there be interest.

Practice would continue at Auburndale for the winter. Youth Boffer was also offered, according to interest.

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## *THE TIME OF OUR LIVES: FALCON'S KEEP MOOT MINUTES*

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### MOAS:

This was Mistress Ealasaïd's final meeting as MOAS. She will be stepping down to prepare for her departure in April.



### Other Business:

Haire Affaire 2018 will be stewarded by Quinn and Lady Emelye. It is reported to have a general A&S theme. More details later...

### Haire Affaire 2017 news:

Reminder that all site fees remained the same. Jessica (Merrill) will be Merchant Coordinator. A discussion ensued on which rooms would be used for this event.

Regional practice will take place on April 29 at UWSP. Boffer may be offered.

### New Business:

Equestrian insurance will be required for an expansion of equestrian practices. (Aside: As this topic was discussed, the gentle on whose lands the practices would be held appeared. Coincidence...?)

It was noted it would only need to be for a limited period of time, approximately from May to October. The Moot will vote on this in January.

### Other Announcements:

Baroness Alex would like to give any interested gentles silk, to be used for silk-screening. She also invited all in attendance to her New Year's Eve party.

### Upcoming Moots:

January 15: Wisconsin Rapids (Lady Arianna)

February 12: Stratford (Mistress Ealasaïd's, with Lord Pedro as co-host. Work Moot for HA.)

March 15: Marshfield (Lady Kate) Address: 1524 N Apple Ave, Marshfield, WI

As always, any errors, omissions, or lack of holiday cheer is solely the responsibility of your humble scribe. Lord Pedro hopes everyone had a festive and happy holiday season, and wishes one and all a prosperous and joyful New Year.

YIS, Lord Pedro

***OFFICERS OF FALCONS KEEP***

**Seneschal: Lord Pedro de Benavides** (MKA Bart Forman) [otrable@gmail.com](mailto:otrable@gmail.com)

Deputy Seneschal: vacant



**Pursuivant: Baroness Alexandra Wasserman** (MKA Terri Harteau)

5192 Long Dr, Stratford, WI (715)897-4497 [terris@tznet.com](mailto:terris@tznet.com)

Deputy Pursuivant: Gustav



**Exchequer: Lady Arianna d a Lucca** (MKA Dona Panter)

4321 80th St S, Kellner, WI(715)213-2069 [Arianna\\_rogan@yahoo.com](mailto:Arianna_rogan@yahoo.com)

Deputy Exchequer:



**Knights Marshall: Lord Ralik Ravenwolf** (MKA Douglas Hizer)

(715) 459 7384, email: [ralik\\_ravenwolf@yahoo.com](mailto:ralik_ravenwolf@yahoo.com)

**Marshall of Fence : Lord Justinian of Cherson** [justinian@tznet.com](mailto:justinian@tznet.com)

**Marshall of Archery:** (pending)

**Marshall Of Thrown Weapons: THL Alessandro** (MKA Jason Welker)

104 N. Florence St. Rothschild WI 715-297-1230 [chaosgeneral@charter.net](mailto:chaosgeneral@charter.net)



**Equestrian Marshal: THL Anna z Pernstejna** (MKA Joyce Mueller) [ajmlr@tds.net](mailto:ajmlr@tds.net)



**Minister of Arts & Sciences: Lady Honor Quinn** [quinnfalconskeep@gmail.com](mailto:quinnfalconskeep@gmail.com)

Deputy Minister of Arts & Sciences: Lady Yoshida Kiku



**Minister of Youth: Katharine de Saint Denis** (MKA Katherine Seibel)

[kate@folklorefarms.com](mailto:kate@folklorefarms.com)



**Chronicler: Lady Anna Meyer** (MKA Holly Heise)

W1857 US HWY 10 Granton, WI 54436 (608)-617-8186 [hollyheise@gmail.com](mailto:hollyheise@gmail.com)



**Chatelaine: Lady Emelye Ambroys**

[Chatelaine.falconskeep@live.com](mailto:Chatelaine.falconskeep@live.com)

Deputy Chatelaine: Lucia dell'Emelia (MKA Caity Carmody)



**Web Minister: Baroness Alexandra der Wasserman** (MKA Terri Harteau)



(715)897-4497 [terris@tznet.com](mailto:terris@tznet.com)


**Social Media Relations: Lady Yoshida Kiku** [tracykiku@gmail.com](mailto:tracykiku@gmail.com)

**Historian: Pedro de Benavides** (MKA Bart Forman) [otrable@gmail.com](mailto:otrable@gmail.com)

## NORTHSHIELD EVENT CALENDAR

### January, 2017 On the Silk Road - A Nordskogen Twelfth

Night   Saturday January 7-8, 2017 51  
Barony of Nordskogen (Ramsey MN)

Yuletide  Saturday January 14-15, 2017 51  
Shire of Noiregarde (Newell SD)

Shake, Rattle and Roll: Still surviving 900 years after the Verona earthquake Saturday January 21, 2017 51 Barony of Castel Rouge (Winnipeg MB)

Market Day at Birka   Saturday January 28-29, 2017 51  
Kingdom of East (Manchester NH)

Die By The Sword III Saturday January 28, 2017 51  
Shire of Rudivale (Grafton ND)


**February, 2017** Tacky Garb Ball Saturday February 4, 2017 51  
Barony of Jararvellir (Stoughton WI)

Lupercalia Saturday February 11, 2017 51  
Shire of Rivenwood Tower (Garden City MN)

Winter War Maneuvers Saturday February 18, 2017 51  
Kingdom of Calontir (Lincoln NE)

Byzantine Haire Affaire Saturday February 18, 2017 51  
Shire of Falcon's Keep (Auburndale WI)

That Moot Thingy XVII (17) - Coille Stoirmeil's 35th Birthday Friday February 24-26, 2017 51  
Canton of Coille Stoirmeil (Tomah WI)

Hertzkrieg XXII  Saturday February 25, 2017 51  
College of Svatý Sebesta (Vermillion SD)

### March, 2017

Northshield Arts And Sciences Competition   Saturday March 4, 2017 51  
Shire of Hvitskogar (Hurley WI)

Theodore's Medieval Academy for Novices Saturday March 11, 2017 51  
Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr (Milwaukee WI)




Gulf Wars XXVI     Saturday March 11-19, 2017 51  
Kingdom of Gleann Abhann (Lumberton MS)

Ides of March Saturday March 25, 2017 51  
Shire of Trewint (Volga SD)

Fighting in the Shade VII Saturday March 25, 2017 51  
Barony of Jararvellir (Madison WI)



### The Legend of the Northshield Calendar

His Majesty will at-  Her Majesty will at-  
 The Fyrste will attend  The Tarkhan will  
