



# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXIII, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2013, ASXLVII

## THE ORIGIN OF APRIL FOOLS: FACT OR FANCY?

April Fools Day has been celebrated in Europe for centuries, but the origins are obscure. Light-hearted festivals in many cultures take place about the time of the vernal equinox but is this the true origin of April Fools? Similar festivals, including Medieval 12th Night with the lord of Misrule occur at the winter solstice, but did this custom migrate to the spring? Below are several explanations of the origin of April Fool's found in a 5 minute internet search. Try your hand at deciding which to believe. (answers, or at least annotated comments are on page 2).

- 1) April Fool's began with the Roman festival of Hilaria, on March 25 which celebrates the return of Cybele from the underworld.
- 2) During the reign of Constantine, a group of jesters

and fools said they could run the empire better than Constantine himself. One, named Kugel was made king for a day during which he passed an edict requiring pranks on the anniversary of that day, April 1.

- 3) Chaucer started April Fool's Day when he set the Nun Priest's tale of the proud rooster Chanticleer tricking his way out of captivity by a fox "syn March begin thritty dayes and two"
- 4) In 1508 a French poet referred to poisson d'avril (lit April Fish) which is the first mention of the European custom of putting a fish on a person's back on April 1.
- 5) In the Middle Ages, before the shift to the Gregorian Calendar in 1582, New Year's Day was celebrated

on March 25 (Feast of the Annunciation) in most European towns. In some areas of France, New Year's was a week-long holiday ending on April 1. Many writers suggest that April Fools originated because those who celebrated on January 1 made fun of those who celebrated on other dates.

- 6) Iranians play jokes on each other on the 13th day of the Persian new year (Nowruz) (*now* means new and *ruz* means day), which falls on April 1 or April 2. This day, celebrated as far back as 536 BC is called Sizdah Bedar and is the oldest prank-tradition in the world still alive today; this fact has led many to believe that April Fools' Day has its origins in this tradition.

## APRIL 21 MOOT

The next moot will be the cooking moot for Bardic Madness. Cooking will begin at 9 am and the moot will be held as usual at 1pm, both at the home of Mistress Ealasaid & Baron Guttorm:

C3808 Heartland Hills Rd in Stratford. Phone 715-687-4870

Directions from Hwy 153: turn south onto Hwy M, keep left at the first bend and turn left onto

Balsam Rd (gravel), \*Right onto Heartland Hills (sign with a sunset—if you cross the bridge you've gone too far) keep right, we're the cedar house with red doors, detached workshop, and Viking Hall

Directions from Hwy 10: turn North on Hwy M, continue through Rozellville, follow the first bend in M, but at the second bend keep right onto Balsam

(gravel) continue from \*above.

If coming from Marshfield north on 97, the shortest way is to turn right on C to Rozellville when you turn north onto M

We will be cooking before, during and possibly after the moot. Come anytime you are willing to help. Contributions to the potluck are appreciated but remember the kitchen will be busy

## UPCOMING MOOTS AND PRACTICE

- April Work Moot 4/21  
*Cooking for Bardic Madness Ealasaid & Guttorm Stratford*
- May 12 Moot: Lady Beatrice, Marshfield
- June 19 Moot: THL Alex & THL Janvier, Stratford
- Fighter & Rapier Practice Mondays at 7pm UW SP



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

CHRONICLER'S QUILL 2

APRIL FOOL ANSWERS 2

HAIRE AFFAIRE RECIPES 3

MOOT MINUTES 4

CALENDAR 5

OFFICERS 6

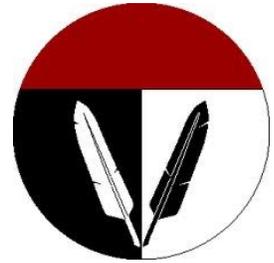
## THE CHRONICLER'S QUILL

Greetings from Mistress Ealasaid nic Phearsoinn,

As I was working on the Mewsletter, I noted that many of the officers do not have deputies. While some of us, myself included, have only recently taken over these offices, all of us can sometimes use a little help. Several officers, for example, were not able to attend the recent moot. If they had deputies, these may have been able to attend and report in their place. Also, if someone is not sure whether he or she is interested in taking over an office in the future, serving as a deputy would be a good way to be sure. Please think about this and consider volunteering to be a deputy for an office that interests you.

I have reorganized, but not added or deleted anything from the minutes in order to keep it to one page. While there is no real page limit on the Mewsletter, I would like to add more variety, rather than just including the basics like the officers, minutes, calendar, etc. If you have other things you would like to share please send them!

Yours in service, Ealasaid



## ANNOTATED APRIL FOOL ANSWERS

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>1) Roman Hilaria. True as far as it goes, but not clear if this is the real origin of April Fool's Day.</p> <p>2) Constantine. This story was actually an April Fool perpetrated on the press in 1983 by Prof. Boskin at Boston University.</p> <p>3) Chaucer. While this is a quotation from <i>Canterbury Tales</i> many think it is a clerical error and that Chaucer really wrote "syn March <i>be gon</i> (ie the end</p> | <p>of March) days thritty and two" (ie May 1, also a day of merriment).</p> <p>4) French poet: He did write this, but poisson d'avril may have already been an established custom.</p> <p>5) Shift to the Gregorian Calendar. This did not happen until 1582 in France and later in England, when Aprils Fools was already established</p> <p>6) This day does exist in Ira-</p> | <p>nian tradition, but it is not clear if or when it spread to Europe.</p> <p>So in summary, we really do not know how or when April Fools Day traditions started. Anyone who thinks is knows is himself a fool!</p> |
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## OBLIGATORY BORING DISCLAIMER

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### Web pages :

[www.sca.org](http://www.sca.org)

[www.northshield.org](http://www.northshield.org)

[www.falconskeep.org](http://www.falconskeep.org)

[www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/falcon/index.htm](http://www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/falcon/index.htm)

### Yahoo group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/falconskeep/>



# Japanese Haire Affaire Recipes

## Oshi-Zushi (Smoked Salmon Sushi)

Boil 1 cup rice in 2590 ml water, simmer 12 min covered, then let sit 10 min. Mix 1 tsp rice vinegar, 4 tsp superfine sugar and 1 tsp salt. Toss into rice and cover with wet towels to cool,

Marinate 6 oz smoked salmon in 1 Tbsp soy sauce and 1 Tbsp sake. Layer half in 30x30 cm pan. Top with 1/4 of rice, rest of salmon and rest of rice. Cover with saran wrap, weight top and refrigerate overnight. Cut in squares and serve with soy sauce.

## Namasu (Carrot and Daikon Salad)

Cut 8" daikon (white asian radish) and 2-3 carrots (peeled) into small matchsticks, mix with 1 tsp salt and drain 30 minutes. Mix 3 Tbsp superfine sugar with 4.5 Tbsp rice vinegar till dissolved, toss with veggies, garnish with toasted sesame seeds.

## Miso Soup with Soba Noodles

Boil 6 oz soba noodles in 8 cups water, add 1-2 cups shredded savoy cabbage, 2 scallions sliced, 3 oz tofu cubed, 1/2-3/4 oz finely sliced ginger root, and 1/3 sheet cubed nori (seaweed). Season to taste with soy sauce and add 2 oz white miso just before serving.

## Saba Miso (fish with miso)

Boil 1/2 cup water, 1/2 cup sake, 3 Tbsp mirin, 3 Tbsp light soy sauce, 3 Tbsp sugar, 1 green onion sliced, 4 oz finely sliced ginger root, and 3 Tbsp miso. Add 1/2-1 lb white fish and cook till done.

## Genmai Zoushi (Brown Rice & Mushroom soup)

Boil 4 cups dashi stock, 4 Tbsp sake, 1 tsp salt, 4 Tbsp soy sauce, 2-4 oz sliced shitake mushrooms (or comparable amount dried). Add 1 1/2 cups cooked brown rice. Beat 2 eggs, pour in swirl into boiling soup and let cook without stirring, top with 2 Tbsp sliced green onion and serve.

## Chicken Namban (Southern Barbarian chicken)

Brown 3.5 lbs chicken thighs and 3 sliced green onions in 2 Tbsp oil. Then bake chicken 350 degrees 25 min or until done.

Boil 3" kombu (kelp) in 1 1/2 cups rice vinegar, 1/2 cup sugar, 3/4 cup soy sauce and 35 small red chiles. Cool and cover chicken. Marinate in refrigerator for 3-5 days. Serve cold, sliced with vegetable garnish.

## Taki-Awase (Braised Turnip with Prawn & Mangetout)

Parboil 8 small turnips for 3 minutes. Mix 2 1/2 cups dashi stock, 2 Tsp light soy sauce, 4 Tbsp mirin, 2 Tbsp sake. Submerge turnips and cook till tender. Meanwhile cook 16 prawns and steam 3-4 oz snow peas. When turnips are done top each with 2 prawns and 2 snow peas and serve warm.

## Dora Yaki (Sweet Pancake)

Beat 3 eggs and 5 Tbsp sugar until sugar dissolves, add 1 Tbsp honey and 1 2/3 cup flour. Mix 1 tsp soda in 2/3 cup water, add to batter. Fry small pancakes in oil.

Sandwich pairs of pancakes together with filling of 9 oz adzuki bean paste cooked with 3 Tbsp sugar and a pinch of salt. Serve cold.

## Togashi (Chinese style fried cakes)

Mix 1 cup flour, 1 tsp soda and 1/2 cup water. Roll 1/2 inch thick and cut out. Fry in 2-3" oil, drain and while warm dip in a syrup of 1/2 cup water boiled with 1 1/2 cups sugar.

## Cooks notes:

Most of the ingredients except fresh daikon are available both online and/or in regular grocery stores. The only daikon I could find was in Madison and Eau Claire. For rise use the short-grained type. While you can make your own dashi by boiling bonito flakes and kelp in water it is easier to get instant dashi. The common brand dashi-no-moto is high in MSG, but you can get a non-MSG type that is like a bonito flake tea bag which is really easy



Shire of Falcon's Keep Group Photo from Haire Affaire

## March 24 2013 Moot

At the home of Lord Pedro and Lady Emelye As recorded by Lord Pedro de Benavides.

Officers not present: Heavy Weapons Marshal, Web-mistress

### Officer Reports:

**Rapier Marshal:** Chain Mail is now legal for rapier combat. The cost of chain mail would range from \$250- \$400, and is made from welded stainless steel. A report about its use in the field was glowingly positive, as chain mail allows the wearer to keep cooler and not be overcome by heat as quickly. A discussion regarding the proper fitting, wearing and use of a chain mail hood ensued. Any further questions regarding chain mail should be directed to Lord Janvier, who will be pleased to answer them. Also, practice at UWSP will resume the Monday following Spring Break in approximately two weeks from the moot.

Youth Minister: No new business.

**Thrown Weapons Marshal:** Alessandro requests a vote in the April Moot regarding a pending purchase of spear tips. The approximate cost would be \$50- \$60. Shafts are already prepared for them. He also requested pine rounds, approximately 12 inches in diameter, for the target range at Poorman's Pennsic. Janvier has graciously volunteered a tree for this purpose.

**Exchequer:** Haire Affaire final report is not complete due to pending payments for various items. (Note: further information about Haire Affaire will be included in the Haire Affaire event breakdown.) She issued memory sticks to the officers that were to receive them. Finally, Lady Mary noted she would be looking for co-signers for the SCA Falcon's Keep account. She specifically requested another signer from the Wausau area. Lady Kiku volunteered for this.

**Falcon's Gate** (as communicated by Justinian): Important upcoming events noted. Sunday, April 7: Masquerade. Held in the Laird room in the HEC as UWSP. This runs from 6 PM to 10 PM. Saturday, May 4: Regional Fighter Practice, in the usual practice area. This will run from 5 PM to 9 PM.

**Chatelaine:** No new business.

**Chronicler:** Content for April Mewsletter urgently requested within the week.

**Arts & Sciences:** No new business. Lady Emelye will conduct a class about how to perform the duties of Troll at events.

**Historian:** Request for information for persons that could assist the further advance of the story of Falcon's Keep. He noted a rough timeline was currently in production.

### Upcoming Moots:

April 21: Baron Guttorm & Mistress Ealasaid.

May 19, 2013: Lady Beatrice.

June 23, 2013: Lord Janvier and Lady Alex.

There was also some discussion about the July Moot being held in the Rapids area. It was agreed that this would be decided at the next moot.

### Bardic Madness Business:

Most staff in place; volunteers are still welcomed and appreciated. Insurance paperwork completion has been confirmed by Lady Beatrice.

Site will open at 7:00 AM. Gate opens at 8:00 AM for merchants; 9:00 AM for Populace. Gate will close at 1:00 PM. Lunch will be 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. Feast will start at @ 5:00 PM. It will most likely be longer than a typical feast, as there will be performances between removes. Final schedules will be released by Alessandro before the April Moot. The Royal Chamberlaine has requested retainers from the populace of Falcon's Keep for their Highnesses. A suggestion was made that Falcon's Gate members would be encouraged to perform this duty if they attended. There would be 3 hour shifts. The location of the Royalty Room at the event was discussed. It was suggested the "fireplace room" This led to suggestions for royalty as well: a Shire box

Estimated attendance for the event: 120- 150, with 100 staying for Feast. Parking for the event was discussed. An issue was raised regarding possible construction near the site area. Lady Beatrice promised to look into it. Crash space for the event was requested. Lord Janvier and Lady Emelye volunteered to open their homes for this. A herald may be needed. Also, a heraldic table was discussed for the event. Material transport for the the event would be needed, to be done the week before. Volunteers were requested for it. Reminder: April 1st is the pre-registration deadline date for Feast. Ealasaid brought some dishes that she intended for Feast to the Moot for everyone to try. would be ideal for that. and a request for tokens or other items for the Royalty baskets. Royalty would be "comped" for their attendance at the event.

### Haire Affaire Event Breakdown: "It was fun!"

Heavy weapons fighter attendance was down: rapier fighter attendance was up.

Positives: The children's event area was a great success; its location was in a great place with the merchants. Set-up and Take-down was satisfactorily fast. Lunch was a success. Internet access was greatly appreciated, both by the heralds and for other necessary activity.

The Fly In The Ointment: The effort necessary to extract duct tape glue off of the floor.

Future reference: Duct tape will NOT be used on the floor at this site!

Improvements: There was a discussion regarding the position of the Royalty Room at the event, and possible reorganization. The topics discussed included the openness of the Royalty Room; the possibility of placing thrones in front of the room in its new location, and the possible building of a new royalty room, perhaps a "breakdown" room. This would not be made of wood, however...This topic will be revisited in the future.

A final note: Lady Kiku announced she would conduct an A&S display at Poorman's Pennsic. The theme is the A&S 50 Challenge projects.

# EVENT CALENDAR



## April, 2013

Squirrel Regional Part II, Saturday April 6, Canton of Nordleigh (Rosemount MN)

Spring Coronation Saturday April 13, Shire of Trewint (Mitchell SD)

THACO 4 - The Armored Combat Outing Saturday April 20, Barony of Nordskogen (St. Paul MN)

Provost Challenge, Fri-Sun April 26-28, Shire of Coldedernhale (Fort Pierre SD)

Bardic Madness XXIII Sat-Sun April 27-28, Shire of Falcon's Keep (Marshfield WI)

## May, 2013

Beltaine by the Bay, Fri-Sun, May 3-5, Shire of Darkstone (Washburn, WI)

Eastern Regional Fighter Practice, Saturday May 4 (Stevens Point, WI)

Spring Crown, Saturday May 11, Barony of Jararvellir (Stoughton, WI)

Quest for Camelot, Thur-Sun May 16-19, Shire of Schattentor (Sturgis, SD)

Lamb to Loom, Saturday May 18, Shire of Trum an dem See (Random Lake, WI)

Raid the Kitchen, Fri-Sat May 24-25, Shire of Rivenwood Tower (Mankato MN)

ARRG XII, Fri-Sun May 24-26, Barony of Jararvellir (Montello, WI)

Silks and Needles, Saturday May 25, Shire of Korsvag (Fargo, ND)

Mermaids XX, Fri-Sun May 31-Jun 2, Shire of Turm an dem See (Valders, WI)

## June, 2013

Border Skirmish, Fri-Sun Jun 7-9, Barony of Caer Anterth Mawr (Elkhorn, WI)

Pas d'Armes ..., Thur-Sun June 20-23, Canton of Blachemere (East Bethel MN)

Moorish Tavern, Fri-Sun June 21-23, Shire of Midewind (Bottineau ND)

Thatsa Mare XIX The Norse Go A Viking, Fri-Sun June 21-23, Mare Amethystinum (Slate River Ont)

Over the River and in the Woods, Sat Jun 29, Village of Hvitskogar (Ironwood, MI)

Rockhaven Archery Reloaded Too, Sat June 29 Shire of Rockhaven (St Augusta MN)

## July 2013

Warriors and Warlords XX, Thur-Sun July 11-14, Barony of Jararvellir (Boscobel, WI)

Ministers and Magistrates, Fri-Sun, July 12-14, Shire of Coldedernhale (Chamberlain, ND)

Pennsic 42, July 19-Aug 3, Kingdom of Aethelmearc (Slippery Rock, PA)

## OFFICERS OF FALCONS KEEP

**Seneschal: Lady Beatrice of Falcon's Keep** (MKA Jennifer Beebe)

beebejennifer@hotmail.com

Deputy Seneschal: Lord Alessandro (MKA Jason Welker)

104 N. Florence St. Rothschild WI 715-297-1230 chaosgeneral@charter.net

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

5192 Long Drive, Stratford, WI (715)897-4497 terris@tzn.net

Deputy Pursuivant: vacant

**Exchequer: Lady Mary of Falcon's Keep** (MKA Mary Welker)

104 N. Florence St. Rothschild WI 715-297-1230 venom@charter.net

Deputy Exchequer: Arianna da Lucca (MKA Dona Panter)

**Knights Marshall: Lord Hideyoshi Yoshimitsu** (MKA Jeremy Mallory)

610 Moon Rd Lot 37 ,Mosinee, WI 54455

**Marshall of Fence: Lord Janvier der Wasserman** (MKA Steven Harteau)

5192 Long Drive, Stratford WI (715)897-4497 herrjanvier@hotmail.com

Marshall of Archery: (pending)

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

104 N. Florence St. Rothschild WI 715-297-1230 chaosgeneral@charter.net

**Minister of Arts & Sciences: Lady Emelye Ambroys** (MKA Tabitha Forman)

620 N Ash Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449 ans@falconskeep.org

Deputy Minister of Arts & Sciences: (pending)

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

D3188 Bangart Rd, Stratford WI kseibel@gmail.com

Deputy Minister of Youth: Lady Rawnie de Douglas (MKA Ronda Douglas)

**Chronicler: Mistress Ealasaic nic Phearsoinn** (MKA Elspeth Christianson)

C3808 Heartland Hills Rd, Stratford, WI 54484 715-687-4870 ealasaic27@gmail.com

Deputy Chronicler: vacant

**Chatelaine: Yoshida Kiku** (MKA Tracy Jo Jenkins Peterson)

litflrt@mtc.net

Deputy Chatelaine: Marie Dudely (MKA Amanda Zeidler) azeidler03@yahoo.com

**Web Minister: Lady Caoilfhinn Inghean Maghnusa** (MKA Becky Mallory)

610 Moon Rd Lot 37 Mosinee, WI 54455 rlcable@yahoo.com

Deputy Web Minister: vacant

**Historian: Pedro de Benavides** (MKA Bart Forman)

620 N Ash Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449 otrable@gmail.com