

The Newsletter

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Published on behalf of the shire of Falcon's Keep
and student members of Falcon's Gate

In this issue:

Greetings from the Seneschal	Page 3
From the Chronicler's Quill	Page 4
Anachronist's Book Review	Page 5
Ask Alex	Page 6-7
Age or Armor at Woodson Museum	Page 8
Calendar	Page 9
April Moot	Page 10
Officers of the Shire	Page 11

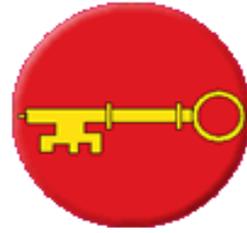
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Submissions are accepted until the 15th of the previous month, preferably as a Word document inserted into an email. Send to both the Chronicler and Deputy Chronicler. The last Thursday of the previous month is the mailing date. Submissions are the property of the contributor and may not be used without permission of the author or artist. Contact the Chronicler for further information.

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Greetings from your Seneschal!



Four years ago when I first started in the SCA I could have never imagined what I was getting involved in. I had never heard of the SCA before the Wausau Ren Festival, where I met members from Falcon's Keep performing a demonstration. I've always had an interest in historical clothing, and my husband was excited about the weapons. My husband and I visited Poorman's that year and he became even more interested in fencing. I took in all the sights and enjoyed the shopping. Well, we have come along way since those early days of involvement. Along the way I've figured out a couple of things I would like to share.

Comradery (We are all friends here)- There are very few places you can go where you have something in common with the stranger standing next to you. The SCA gives you that common ground. Chances are whether it's a cup of sugar, an aspirin, or an extra sleeping bag, you can probably borrow it from the next campsite, or an SCA member.

Humility (It's not a dirty word)- So many places in this world people have the inability to consider another before themselves. In the SCA humility goes hand and hand with service. Whether it's service to the crown through volunteering in the shire, or helping the gentle's of North Shield we all aspire to be that better person. Service to those around you is the norm.

Virtue (Not just for the delicate flower)- One of the things I like most about the SCA are the ideals that exemplify the time period we play in. You could be a newcomer to an event, not knowing anyone there and a complete stranger will walk up and offer to help get your tent set up. What other place can you leave your campsite or things at an event without having to lock up everything you own, as not to have something missing later. Where else can you see a gentleman bow and allow a lady to pass. In the SCA Chivalry is not dead.

So even though there is so much more to say when referring to the SCA, I feel I can only sum it up with this. It's not just about the camping!!

Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

YIS, Mary of Falcon's Keep

The next moot will be April 6th, 1 P.M. @ Lady Sadhbh & Lord Peader
A Gabha Dubh in Wisconsin Rapids

The Chronicler's Quill

Greetings onto the folk
of the Shire of Falcon's Keep,



Thanks to all who helped with the cooking moot in preparation for Haire Affaireski! It was not only much easier but a lot more fun to cook with so many hands to help. The other work at the moot included planing for Haire Affaireski of course, and Erin has volunteered to autocrat Poor Man's Pennsic.

Following the moot, THL Janvier taught a brief impromptu class on blacksmithing in miniature. I have made my first piece of forged metalwork, a 3 cm Viking frying pan, and in teaching me he has regained his green belt (which he misplaced at Boars Head and could get back only when he taught me something I did not already know). He is a skilled model maker who also made a miniature mastermyr chest and a trestle table.

Please look in this issue for information about the upcoming demos at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum. We have the opportunity to attend the April 18 opening of their Age of Armor Exhibit in garb and several of us are teaching classes for their educational program April 26.

As always I am looking for material for the Mewsletter. I appreciate all the regular contributors, but I still need other articles, more about your personnas or A&S, or events you have attended, and especially cover art.

Yours in service, ealasaïd

Anachronists Book Review:

Lady Eve of Lynn

Every other winter I take the time to go through the stacks of books that seem to be everywhere, a general house cleaning was in order. Some books I donated to a nearby nursing home as they were all in large print. Some I kept to read again. Others I do not know who to give them to. These are books that had been used for school demos. All are in good condition. I hope to find them a good home.

Three are from the Time Life series *What Life Was Like*.

In the Age of Chivalry; covers medieval Europe AD 800-1500

When Longships Sailed deals with the Vikings AD 800-1100

In the Realm of Elizabeth Covers England AD 1533-1605

The other two are also aimed toward young adults

Heroes of the Dawn; Celtic Myth and Mankind.

Warriors of the Lord: The Military Orders of Christendom.

All are full of articles and illustrations that are useful as a reference for costuming or creating a persona.

One book that I came across was one I had used quite often until finding an article that made me doubt it's usefulness as a reference. It was *The Encyclopedia of the Middle Ages*. The article on *Courtly Love* left me scratching my head. It has Eleanor of Aquitaine married to Philip I of France and Henry I of England. Phillip died 14 years before Eleanor was born & Henry I was her second spouse's grandfather.

I was wondering if the proof reader was asleep at the switch. Must have been to allow such a boo boo to pass on to the printer. But then again I don't think they expected any one to read the book cover to cover at all. Maybe it was just supposed to look good on the coffee table



Ask Alex

There was a person on vigil at Haire Affaire. What exactly does that mean?

This last Haire Affaire, we had the privilege of providing a vigil area for an individual who will become a knight at Coronation. In the middle ages, a squire who was about to become a knight would spend the night before in prayer and reflection to prepare themselves for the great honor and duty that comes with being a knight.

In the current middle ages, this ceremony is modified a bit, and extended to all three of the non-royal peerage orders. These orders are the order of the Chivalry, the order of the Laurel and the order of the Pelican. Members of the Chivalry are commonly called Knights and are given the title Sir. Individuals are invited into this order because of their excellence in armored combat. While skill in combat is the driving force, knights are also skilled in at least one area of the arts and sciences, and also recognized for their service to the SCA. Members of the Laurel are considered experts in their field of the arts and sciences, researching, practicing and teaching others in the SCA. They are expected to use and be knowledgeable of period materials, techniques and types appropriate to their area. Members of this order are addressed as Master or Mistress. The third order is the order of the Pelican. This order recognizes service to the SCA. There is a medieval legend that in time of need, a pelican will prick her own breast to feed her lifeblood to her young. These are the people who have gone above and beyond to help keep the SCA running. Many times they are behind the scenes and keep everything running smoothly. They are given the title Master or Mistress.

These orders are a bit different from other Kingdom orders. These orders are recognized throughout the SCA. In other words, if a person is a knight, laurel or pelican in one Kingdom, they are a Sir, Master or Mistress in all Kingdoms. If you are a member of the order of the Tyr in Northshield, you are not a Tyr in other Kingdoms. They may have an equivalent order, but you are not automatically in it.

When a person is nominated and approved for inclusion in one of these orders, there is normally a sequence of events that occur. The sponsoring knight, laurel or pelican will go before the King in court and



beg a boon (ask a favor). They will petition the King to include the individual in the order. The individual is called forward and, if they agree, they are placed on vigil. Then an upcoming event, they will be elevated to membership in the order.

In the SCA a vigil is normally held at one or several events. An area away from the general activities is set aside. This is where the candidate will receive people who will give them advice and best wishes. There are normally refreshments for the visitors and a journal to write down any personal messages. I believe this is a very special time for the candidate reflect on their new position and responsibilities. It is also a chance for friends and admirers to give advice and let the candidate know how they have affected other people. To be included in one of these orders is a great honor that is not given to many people. It is also a great responsibility. When you are new to the SCA, there is some freedom of actions. Once you become a peer, you are a living example that others will want to emulate. Talking with others who have already experienced this can help a new peer prepared for this kind of scrutiny.

Falcon's Feed: Scottish Eggs

While Scottish eggs are not really period, they are a standard at SCA events and can be found at most Renaissance fairs. These are good both hot or cold, and travel well.

1 pound of bulk pork sausage
 6 hard-boiled eggs
 1 raw egg
 Italian style bread crumbs

Pour a handful or two of bread crumbs in a bowl for dipping later. Thaw the pork sausage. Add the raw egg to the sausage and work together with your hands. Do this until it is smooth. (That part can get a bit messy). Divide the sausage into 6 equal portions. Shape each portion around a hard boiled egg. Roll it in the bread crumbs to fully coat. Bake on a rack in a baking pan. There will be quite a bit of grease, so make sure the baking pan is at least one inch deep. Bake, uncovered at 400 degrees for 30 minutes, or until meat is no longer pink.

contributed by THL Alex

The Age of Armor at Woodson Art Museum

“The Age of Armor” exhibit at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum will take place from April 19th to June 22nd. The exhibition will consist of pieces of armor spanning the entire SCA time period provided by the Higgins Armory Museum. There will also be photography of SCA members in the form of platinum prints of California photographer E.F. Kitchen. Our group has been contacted by the event coordinator to perform a couple of demonstrations for the public during this exhibition. The dates for the demos are April 26th and June 21st from noon to 5pm. Classes on April 26th will include basic heraldry, card weaving, celtic knot work on paper, and kumihimo among others. Classes for June 26th have yet to be determined, though we will attempt to include the arts martial since the ground should be drier, weather permitting. There is also an open invitation to SCA members to attend the private previewing on the evening of April 18th, tentatively from 7pm to 9pm. Attendees have been requested to wear garb to add ambiance to the viewing. If you would like to help out by teaching a class, attending the previewing, or just speaking to the public please contact Lord Alessandro at chaosgeneral@charter.net

In addition to the demonstrations we have been performing, there will be a visit by members of the Oakshott institute from May 13th through the 17th culminating with an armor symposium to be held on May 17th. For more information on the exhibition see <http://www.lywam.org/>

This is from their website:

Oakeshott Institute Master Armorers Residency

Tuesday – Sunday, May 13 – 18, 2008

Five days of hot-metal forging demonstrations as well as demonstrations of chivalric practices by two armorers from the Minneapolis- based Oakeshott Institute. Opportunities to try on armor and handle other forged pieces. A tented outdoor program.

CALENDAR

April 2008

- 5 Lectures on Medieval Dress [Caer Anterth-Milwaukee WI]
- 5 Brewers and Vintners XII [Svaty Sebesta-Vermillion SD]
- 12 Provost Challenge [Coldedernhale-Pierre SD]
- 19 Spring Coronation [Nordskogen & Nordleigh-Northfield MN]
- 25-27 Bardic Madness XVIII [Mistig Waetru-Phelps WI]

May 2008

- 3 Western Regional Melee Practice [Dreibruken-Lincoln ND]
- 3 35th Anniversary [Jararvellir-Stoughton WI]
- 10 Crown Tournament [Caer Anterth Mawr-Waukesha WI]
- 15-18 Quest for Camelot [Schattentor-Nemo SD]
- 16-18 Lusty Day in May [Western Keep-Sisseton SD]
- 23-26 Ages of War Italian Wars [Silfren Mere, Austin MN]
- 23-26 Midsummers Eve in the Highlands [Treewint-Wessington Springs SD]
- 24-26 AARG VII [Jararvellir-Montello WI]
- 30-1 Mermaids [Turn am dem See-Valders WI]

June 2008

- 5-8 Moorish Tavern [Midewinde-Bottineau ND]
- 6-8 Castel Fever [Silfren Mere-Oronoco MN]
- 14-15 Beltaine [Darkstone-Ashland WI]
- 28-29 Butt I am a Merry Man [Castel Rouge-Sanford, MB]

July 2008

- 6 Art in the Park [Wynandremer-Brainerd MN]
- 10-13 Warriors and Warlords [Jararvellir & Nordskogen-Boscobel WI]
- 17-20 Rabid Yale Hunt [Colderndale-White River SD]
- 19 River Revel III [Stromfels-River Falls, WI]

August 2008

- 1-3 Poor Man's Pennsic [Falcon's Keep-Arpin WI]

Fighter practices for both Rapier and Armored will be held on Monday night at UWSP in the Quandt Gym balcony and Room 154. See the website for directions.

April Moot
Sunday April 6, 1 pm
at the home of Lady Sadhbh and Lord Peadar
5131 Kellner Rd, Wisconsin Rapids

Review Haire Affaireski and start planning for Poor Man's.

The ingredient is cloves. There will be ham (with cloves), buns and apple juice plus whatever you choose to bring. Lady Sadhbh suggested co-ordinating via the list to try to get a balance.

Directions:

From East: Take Hwy. 54 west from Plover about 10 miles, and turn left on County trunk U towards Kellner. Go about two miles and turn right at the first stop sign, County trunk W or Kellner Road. Continue for 1 1/2 miles and you will see our drive on the right. Look for Device Flags.

From the West: Take Hwy. 13 east into Wisconsin Rapids, and turn right onto the Riverview Expressway. This will take you across the bridge and you will be on Hwy. 54 east. go thru several stoplights. When Hwy. 54 turns left continue going straight past Home depot, on to County trunk W or Kellner Road. We are the second driveway on the left past 48th Street. Watch for the Device Flags.

Web pages of interest:

www.sca.org

www.northshield.org

www.falconskeep.org

www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/falcon/index.htm

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Minister of Youth: vacant

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April 2008