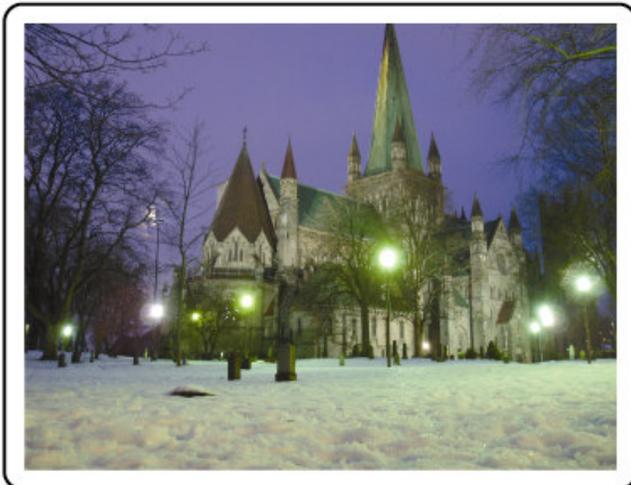


The Mewsletter



January AS XLI
Volume XV Issue I



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

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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.

The Mewsletter is published monthly. It is available from Elspeth Christianson, C3808 Heartland Hills Rd, Stratford WI 54484. Written subscriptions are \$1.00 per issue or \$10 per year and electronic subscriptions are \$5. All subscriptions expire in December. Back issues are available for \$1.00 each. Make checks payable to SCA Shire of Falcon's Keep and send to the Exchequer for processing.

Greetings from your Seneschal!

This is the last article that I will submit to the Mewsletter as your Seneschal. It has been an interesting two years to say the least. There have been many ups and downs on my watch. And let me tell you, it can be a difficult job at times. (I now have the utmost respect for anyone who has ever borne the burden of Seneschal.) However, I have every confidence in my replacement, Mary. Although I will be staying on as Deputy Seneschal in an advisory capacity, make no mistake; it is going to be her show come the 7th. Extend her every courtesy as she gets to know her new job. (She's going to be your boss, after all.)

This coming year is going to be very busy for us. In addition to Poor Man's, we are hosting two Kingdom events this year. If we as a Shire are going to succeed, we have to work together as a team. This means no showboating, no last minute surprises, and following SCA procedures. (The Kingdom of Northshield is watching us, I can assure you.) Help out as much as you can this year, but remember to have fun too. (This is our hobby, after all.) Continued success Keepers and thank you.

Humbly yours,

Justinian

Ϡυστινιαν

Cover Credits:

This month's cover was prepared by Knut Guttormssen using photographs of Trondheim Cathedral taken by Baron Guttorm Arnessen during a trip to Norway last January.

The Chronicler's Quill

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

Last moot we had a delightful Yule celebration at the home of Lady Anatolia and Lord Audun the Black. The chief order of business was election of new officers who are listed elsewhere in this issue. The next moot will be at the home of Oz the Baker and his lady, and the major topic for discussion will be budget requests for the coming year. Our Knights Marshall has raised the question of carpet to protect the hall during fighting events and will seek more cost information. Others who foresee financial needs for the coming year are encouraged to present their ideas at the January moot.

Other important topics included the announcement that the shire's bid for Coronation in Fall 2007 which was accepted by the Crown at Boars Head. The upcoming Artful Hare Affaire is now a Kingdom Arts and Sciences competition. Both entrants and judges are being sought. Prototypes of the white gyngerbrede site tokens were tasted and approved. Following the moot, shire property was transferred to the new storage area near Poor Man's site.

This year's Mewsletter is available at reduced subscription prices of \$10 for paper and \$5 for electronic. (We need a newsletter to maintain our status as a shire and must bill for both electronic and paper since both help to support the required copies to royalty and corporate officers). Subscriptions should be sent to the Exchequer. A new feature will be the Folk of the Shire which will showcase the biography of a persona monthly starting with the officers. Other ideas are welcomed.

Thanks to all who contribute to the Mewsletter, especially Knut Guttormssen for the design of this month's cover. More contributions, especially cover art, are needed.

Yours in service,

Ealasaid

Folk of the Shire

This is a new monthly column to showcase personnas in the shire. We will start with officers, but ultimately any who submit a biography will be able to have it published in turn.

Mistress Ealasaïd nic Phearsoinn,
Chronicler

I am called Ealasaïd nic Phearsoinn (Ealasaïd, daughter of the parson) which is no shame as the Celtic church is not celibate like the Roman church. Firstborn of a missionary and his wife about the time Malcolm I



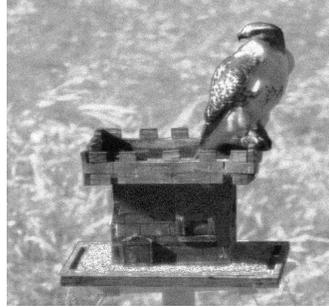
came to the throne of Alba, I learned my letters but little else from the church as I always felt more at home with the faith of my ancestors. As a young woman I worked as a midwife and healer and was beginning to get the reputation of a “wise woman” when I was captured by a Norseman called Guttorm Arnessen. I have lived with him for thirty years, first as his thrall, and later as his wife and have borne him three children, Caitlin, Knut and Olav, all of whom are now grown. As a Norseman’s wife I have had to learn to cook and make clothing in the Norse way, including many new skills such weaving with tablets, nalbinding, and sprang.

I have dwelt in 5 kingdoms (An Tir when it was merely a principality of the West, Jaravellir when it was part of the Middle Kingdom, Atlantia, Rhyderrich Hael when it was part of the East, Debateable Lands at the birth of the Kingdom of Aethelmearc, and most recently Falcon’s Keep at the birth of the Kingdom of Northshield. I have been honored to be named a Mistress of the Pelican for service as chirurgon and chronicler in the Midrealm a quarter century ago when Northshield was just becoming a region and later a Mistress of the Laurel for skills in Cookery and Garbmaking.

The View from the Watch Tower

Papa Stefano

January 2007



We have such a comfortable place to be, my Lovely T'ressa and I, our little corner of Paradise. A warm hearth, bread still steaming from the oven, hot soup, fresh bed linen, someone to brush my hair and memories of a wonderful full life are the ingredients.

We can watch out our tower window and see our strong sons and beautiful daughters and their families as they wend down the long road to visit. We see them from far enough away that we have time to straighten up a bit and get ready before they get to the front door.

They are bringing us the most precious of gifts, our grandchildren. Brilliant, smart, gorgeous, enthusiastic miniatures of themselves, and yet not. These wonderful young folk are their own Persons. Everything they are and do is new and unique, from baby kisses to graduations. They are so enthused and curious about their entire world. We don't envy them, we've been there and done that. Sometimes they ask how we would handle a certain problem or how we did something in the 'old days', I think mostly to be polite. But it is entertaining and satisfying to see that the symphony continues, the cycles recycle.

After they leave, which is not necessarily always too soon, I can watch my little Birdies and the majestic Tempus Fugit. They go about their business with great industry and intensity. We keep the feeders supplied for the little guys, but Tempus

has to find her own lunch. She prefers it fresher than we can provide. Earth Mother always seems to supply just enough for Her predators' lunch appetites. How clever is that?

Our calendars mark the beginning of a new year, but that is just a method of keeping track of passing time and seasons for us Human Persons. Winter Solstice has just passed, not the year's end but one of Earth Mother's seasonal markers. If I may quote our Beautiful Fiona MacGregor:

“...For years do not begin or end
Time simply keeps on flowing
The acorn that begins to root
Each season keeps on growing -
Till through the years it sinks to loam
Which feeds the new young oak...
Times marks are made by humans.”

When we are not watching the critters and admiring the Winter Wonderland outside our window, we glance up the road occasionally. If we spy you approaching, we will clean up somewhat but not too much. I would prefer our home to be what a dear friend named it many years ago, The Last Homely House. How could a home with a name like that not be comfortable? Hearth's warm, soup's hot. Come on down, get comfy

FALCON'S FEED—White Gingerbread

Take halfe a pound of marchepane past, a quarter of a pound of white ginger beaten and cerst, halfe a pound of the powder of refined sugar, beate this to a very fine paste with dragagant steeped in rosewater, then role it in round cakes and print it with your moulds: dry them in an oven when the breade is drawn foorth upon white papers & when they be very dry, boxe them and keepe them all the year.

John Murrell, *A delightfull daily exercise for Ladies and Gentlewomen*

1 Tbsp gumtex dissolved in 2 Tbsp rosewater, 2 Tbsp water, 1 lb confectioners sugar, 1/2 lb almond paste, and 1 Tbsp minced fresh gingerroot. Mix, roll, print and bake at 250 till dry but not hard.

CALENDAR

January 2007 (AS XLI)

- 6 - Rumble In The Forest [Coille Stoirmeil - Wilton, WI]
- 13 - 12th Night: Shakespeare's Mid-Winter Dream
[Nordskogen - Marine, MN]
- 13 - Twelfth Night [Schattentor - Rapid City, SD]
- 20 - Yuletide Revel [Border Downs - Sioux Falls, SD]
- 27- Lions and Tigers and Slaves—Oh My ![Castel Rouge-
Winnipeg, MB]

February 2007 (AS XLI)

- 3 - Tournament of Chivalry [Coille Stormeill - Tomah, WI]
- 13-19 - Estrella War XXIII [Atenveldt - Florence, AZ]
- 17 - Lupercalia [Rivenwood Tower - Nicollet, MN]
- 17-18 - Une Fete d'Amour [Midewinde - Minot, ND]
- 17 - Hertzkreig XIII [Svaty Sebesta - Vermillion, SD]
- 24 - A Day of Squirrelly Wrath [Nordleigh, Northfield, MN]

March 2007 (AS XLI)

- 3 - An Artful Haire Affaire [Falcon's Keep - Marshfield, WI]
- 11-18 - Gulf Wars XVI [Gleann Abhann - Lumberton, MS]
- 24 Ides of March XIV [Trewint - Huron, SD]
- 24 Northshield Heraldic and Scribal Symposium [Rockhaven -
St Cloud, MN]
- 30-1 - Bardic Madness [Caer Anterth Mawr - Wautoma, WI]

April 2007 (AS XLI)

- 14 - Northshield Spring Coronation [Silfren Mere-Rochester,
MN]
- 20-22 - Silver Forest Ball [Coille Stoirmeil-Tomah, 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.

Web pages of interest:

www.sca.org
www.northshield.org
www.falconskeep.org
www.uwsp.edu/stuorg/falcon/index.htm

**The January moot will be held at
the home of Oz the Baker and Amy
709 McIntosh St. Wausau, Wi.
715-846-5969
Sunday January 7th, 2006
Starts at 1:00 pm
Please bring a dish to pass and please bring a chair.**

Directions

Take your best way to I39/51
Take Exit 188 Turn right at the lights.
Continue on over the bridge.
At stop lights on corner of Thomas Street turn right.
Go through 2 stop lights and go over bridge.
At stop lights go straight.
Take your first left (seymour st)
then take first right and it is the second house on the right
709 McIntosh

Event Report: Boar's Head and Kristkindlmarkt
Ealasaid nic Phearsoinn



Several folk from the shire traveled to Caer Anterth for this event. During the day there was light and heavy fighting, shopping, and twenty classes including bagpiping by Dughall the founding Baron of Caer Anterth. The court was rather long (over 3 hours) with the highpoints being the retirement of Baron Valarius and Baroness Alice of Kent and the Investiture of Alasdair and Kateryn as Baron and Baroness of Caer Anterth and the elevation of Grimmund Blackwing into the Order of the Pelican. The feast was unusual to say the least. It was a German themed "Taste of Summer" featuring delicacies such as Steak Hamburg with greens, mustard, pickles and plum tomatoes, round breads, Sausages with pickles and onions, loaf breads, noodles and cheese and strudel, all a carefully documented joke.

FROM THE WEB-WEAVER

Greetings fellow Keepers! I hope the Holidays have been well for all of you.

The website has some recently new pages. Check out the link to Kingdom A&S event coming up, the Artful Haire Affaire. If you have any questions about this area or the event, please feel free to contact THL Janvier or Mistress Ealasaid.

We also have a new message board. As more members register for this page we will be adding in new things. I would recommend using your SCA as a sign in name, it would make it easier when posting comments. This is all to keep the lines of communication flowing and to give you a chance to voice any ideas or thoughts outside of the meetings. Please use proper conduct when posting on the site.

To keep all the information up to date on the site, please let me know if you find any errors that may need correcting. It can't be fixed if I don't know about it.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the site please contact me at webminister@falconskeep.org

Yours in Service,

Lady Reina Gunnora of Falcon's Keep

Officers of Falcon's Keep

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