



The Mewsletter

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Published on behalf of the shire of Falcon's Keep and
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 Bart Forman, 620 N Ash Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449. This publication will be available on the Falcon's Keep webpage at 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.

Cover Story

“The Shroud of Charlemagne”, a polychrome Byzantine silk with a pattern showing a quadriga, 9th century. Paris, musée national du Moyen Âge. Byzantium dominated silk production in Europe throughout the Early Middle Ages, until the establishment of the Italian silk-weaving industry in the 12th century and the conquest and break-up of the Byzantine Empire in the Fourth Crusade (1204).

Source: “Byzantium silk”, Wikipedia



The Chronicler's Quill

Saludos hasta el folk de la Comarca de la Falcon's Keep
(Greetings unto the folk of the Shire of Falcon's Keep)

It was an interesting ending to the year for Falcon's Keep, as the December moot was cancelled (as so many other events were) due to the large snow storm. However, I am told that the instruction in cordial making will be progressing at the January moot.

The planning for Haire Affaire will now begin in earnest at the next Moot. As always, the success of Haire Affaire has been through the planning of it. Not everything can be anticipated, but I am certain it will be a wonderful time.

In closing, may we see success and prosperity in both the mundane world and in the Shire's affairs in the coming year!

Atentamente en el Servicio,
Pedro de Benavides

Is It Period? New Year's Day

Answer: It depends on when and where you are. Originally, many people celebrated the New Year in Spring, near the time of the equinox. The Babylonians, for example, celebrated New Year's on the first new moon after the spring equinox.

In the original Roman calendar, January did not even exist. There were only 10 months in a year which went from the Kalends (1st) of March through September (7th month), October (8th month), November (9th month) and December (10th month). The second king of Rome, Numila Pontius, added January and February about 700 BC; and in 153 BC, January 1 became the start of the civil year when the newly elected consuls took office. In 46 BC the Julian calendar established January 1 as the start of the New Year. In keeping with their traditions of debauchery, later period Romans celebrated excessively. The early Christian church reacted by abolishing January 1 as New Years at the Council of Tours in 567.

Meanwhile, the pagan Celts started their year at Samhain (October 31). In the Hebrew calendar, Rosh Hashanah (in September to early October, 163 days after Passover) is the New Year for legal contracts and commemorates the creation of man. The Chinese, however, traditionally celebrated the New Year in the spring, and the traditional Hindu New Year is in mid-April.

Medieval Christian Europe did not have a single well established day for New Year's. It might be December 25, March 1, March 25 (the Feast of the Annunciation), or Easter. In some countries, January 1 was celebrated in a minor way as the Feast of Circumcision (because Jesus would have been circumcised on the 8th day following his birth in the Jewish tradition).

Finally in 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued a papal bull, *Inter gravissimas*. This established the Gregorian calendar reform that fixed January 1 and the New Year. This was accepted almost immediately throughout the Catholic world, but Protestants were slow to adopt the change. In the British Empire, including the Colonies, the New Year was celebrated on Annunciation Day (March 25) until 1752 when the Gregorian calendar was officially adopted.

Assuming you figure out when to celebrate, most New Year traditions involve special foods and beverages, ritual cleansing, lights and fires, clearing or forgiving old debts and starting new things; so maybe New Year's resolutions could also be period (provided you make them in March).

CALENDAR

January, 2011

12th Night Celebration

Saturday January 8, 2011
Shire of Schattentor (Rapid City SD)

12th Night - The Musical

Saturday January 15, 2011
Tree Girt Sea (Midrealm) (Chicago IL)

12th Night

Saturday January 15-16, 2011
Barony of Nordskogen (Bloomington MN)

Winter War Maneuvers

Saturday January 22, 2011
Barony of Mag Mor, (**Calontir**) (Lincoln NE)

It's Only a Flesh Wound

Saturday January 29, 2011
Barony of Jararvellir (Jefferson WI)

And Now For Something Completely Different

Saturday January 29, 2011
Barony of Castel Rouge (Winnipeg MB)

February 2011

That Moot Thingy XI Friday February 4-6, 2011
Canton of Coille Stoirmeil (Wilton WI)

Tournament of Chivalry Saturday February 19, 2011
Shire of Silfren Mere (West Concord MN)

Fighter School XVI Saturday February 26, 2011
Barony of Windhaven (Kewaunee WI)

March, 2011

Gulf Wars XX Sunday March 13-20, 2011
Kingdom of Gleann Abhann (Lumberton MS)

April, 2011

Liars, Cheats and Thieves...

This is not the Haire Affaire You're Looking For

Saturday April 2, 2011
Shire of Falcon's Keep (Wausau WI)

**Fighting/Rapier and Armored practice is held on Monday
Evenings at 6pm. at UW Stevens Point Quandt Balcony.**

***** DC Everest Demo *****

Held at Evercon (Saturday January 8)

Contact Herr Janvier or Lady Alex for information.

January Moot
Sunday January 9, 1 pm

At the home of
 Lady Alexandra and Herr Janvier's
 5192 Long Drive, Stratford, WI

From Wisconsin Rapids - Take Hwy34 north out of Rapids, turn west (left) on Hwy 10. Follow Hwy 10 to County Hwy S turn north (Right). Stay on Hwy S (it jogs to the west when you get to Hwy C) until you get to Hwy 153. Turn west (Left) on Hwy 153. Follow Hwy 153 to County Hwy H. Hwy H ends at 153 turn south (left) (At Teasers) Long Dr is on the left.

From Wausau/ Stevens Point - Take the Mosinee exit off of I39.

From Marshfield - Take County Highway Y (Becker Road) out of Marshfield until County Highway M. Turn left. Stay on M until you get to Hwy 153 (go straight through Rozellville). Turn right on 153 until Hwy H. H only goes to the left (Teasers is on the corner), turn right. Long drive is the second left, we are at the end.

Web pages of interest:

www.sca.org

www.northshield.org

www.falconskeep.org

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

Facebook Groups:

Shire of Falcon's Keep

Falcon's Gate at UWSP

Falcon's Keep Rapier Fighters

Don't forget to check out our Yahoo group:

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

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December 2010