

The Newsletter

October 2010 AS XLV,
Volume XX, Issue 10



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

In this issue:

Cover Story	Page 3
From the Chronicler's Quill	Page 4
Next Month's Moot, Pages of Interest	Page 5
Moot Minutes and Poorman's Report	Page 6, 7
Is it Period? Halloween	Page 8, 9
Schedule Of Events	Page 10
Officers Of Falcon's Keep	Page 11

DISCLAIMER:

The Mewsletter is published on behalf of the Shire of Falcon's Keep and the student members of Falcon's Gate, the Central WI chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA). It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc. and does not delineate SCA policies. For official publications, contact SCA, Inc., Offices of the Registry, PO Box 36073, Milpitas, CA 95036-0743.

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. 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 Avenue, 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

Close-up detail of a female figure from the right half of the Chinese artist Wang Juzheng's hand scroll *The Spinning Wheel*. Deng Yingke and Wang Pingxing, on page 48 of their [Ancient Chinese Inventions](#).

An alternative title for this painting: "The Making of Silk Fabric" by Wang Juzheng, Northern Song Dynasty.

"The earliest clear illustrations of the spinning wheel come from Baghdad (drawn in 1237), China (c. 1270) and Europe (c. 1280), and there is evidence that spinning wheels had already come into use in both China and the Islamic world during the eleventh century. According to Irfan Habib, the spinning wheel was introduced into India from Iran in the thirteenth century.

The spinning wheel replaced the earlier method of hand spinning with a spindle. The first stage in mechanizing the process was mounting the spindle horizontally so it could be rotated by a cord encircling a large, hand-driven wheel. The great wheel is an example of this type, where the fiber is held in the left hand and the wheel slowly turned with the right. Holding the fiber at a slight angle to the spindle produced the necessary twist. The spun yarn was then wound onto the spindle by moving it so as to form a right angle with the spindle. This type of wheel, while known in Europe by the 14th century, was not in general use until later. It ultimately was used there to spin a variety of yarns until the beginning of the 19th century and the mechanization of spinning.

In general, the spinning technology was known for a long time before being adopted by the majority of people, thus making it hard to fix dates of the improvements. In 1533, a citizen of Brunswick is said to have added a treadle, by which the spinner could rotate her spindle with one foot and have both hands free to spin. Leonardo da Vinci drew a picture of the flyer, which twists the yarn before winding it onto the spindle. During the 16th century a treadle wheel with flyer was in common use, and gained such names as the Saxony wheel and the flax wheel. It sped up production, as one needn't stop spinning to wind up the yarn."

"Spinning wheel", 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)

While I was unable to attend Northshield Rapier Academy, I was not idle; as I attended Novices, Neophytes, and Knaves in Sheboygan. It was a very educational event. Among other things, I have learned how to choose a bow for archery, a brief history of the kingdoms in the SCA, and how to watch heavy fighting. And, a new way to prepare cauliflower. However, I am looking forward to attending Boar's Head.

I would also like to extend greetings to the Falcon's Gate, and the new members therein. It is through your group that the Falcon's Keep is allowed to be strong and flourish.

Finally, as always, submissions are welcome. I will do my best to include it in the Mewsletter.

Atentamente en el Servicio,

Pedro de Benavides

October Moot

Sunday October 17

Moot at 1pm, potluck to follow

Arianna and Rogan's house

4321 80th St S, Wisconsin Rapids

From Marshfield, Take Hwy 13 into town. Turn right onto the Riverview Expressway. Go all the way through town and out to the Stop Sign. (You will pass several stoplights, just keep going straight) Turn Right onto County Trk U (80th St.) The house is on the left directly across from Conley's supper club. From Wausau, Take Hwy 51 South to the Plover exit. (Hwy B) Turn Right onto B. Continue straight onto Hwy 54. Follow 54 for about 20 miles. You will see signs for South Wood County Park and County Trunk U. Turn left onto Cty Trk U (80th St.) Continue on 80th for about 5 miles. The house is on the left directly across from Conley's supper club.

Web pages of interest:www.sca.orgwww.northshield.orgwww.falconskeep.orgwww.uwsp.edu/stuorg/falcon/index.htm

Facebook Groups:

Falcon's Gate at UWSP

Falcon's Keep Rapier Fighters

Don't forget to check out our Yahoo group!

Greetings unto the Shire of Falcon's Keep,

Here are the minutes from the last moot.

The Poor Man's Pennsic report is now available. We did lose \$54, which is not as significant as feared.

The Kelley Castle demo went very well. Thank you to all who attended.

SCACommunity.com is a new webpage for contacts in the SCA. Please feel free to check it out. Falcon's Keep also has a Facebook page.

Sewing nights are starting on October 6 at Arianna's home. The opposite week will be at Jen's home. Jen's first date is October 13. Mary will also be hosting on Oct. 20.

The next moot will be held at Arianna's home in Wisconsin Rapids on October 17, 2010. Our activity for afterward will be wire weaving. The November moot will be November 14 at Mistress Ealasaid and Baron Guttorm's home. The December moot will be December 12 at Lady Alex and Lord Janvier's home.

Daisho Con is being held again this year. We have been asked to participate. The dates of the event are November 19 – 21. This event is held at the Ramada Inn in Stevens Point.

Kathleen is now the president of Falcon's Gate.

We have a new Rapier Marshall, Lady Ysabella de Muerte.

There is a new data base started as a resource for teachers for arts and sciences.

Marie Dudely is also compiling names of all Falcon's Keep members for a contact list. This will connect members with similar interests; it is also intended as a general contact list.

Yours in service,

Pedro

The next page is a summary of the report submitted by Lady Mary regarding Poor-man's Pennsic.

THE SOCIETY FOR CREATIVE ANACHRONISM, INC.
EVENT REPORT

Branch: Shire of Falcon's Keep

Event: Poorman's Pennsic

INCOME					
FEE TYPE(s)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	ACTUAL INCOME
Fill in as needed	Advance	At-the-door	Fee	Advance	Full
	Reserv.		Fee	Fee	
Adult Site Fee		159		9.00	1,431.00
Child Site Fee		14		4.00	56.00
Tent Fee		63		10.00	630.00
Merchant Fee		8		20.00	160.00
NMS Surcharge		66		5.00	330.00
Refunds				0.00	
Family fee		9		35.00	315.00
Direct Contrib.					0.00
TOTAL ACTUAL INCOME					2,922.00

EXPENSES			
EXPENSES	Activity	TOTALS	
Advertising			0.00
Equipment Rental & Maintenance			0.00
Fees & Honoraria (Itemize on back)			0.00
Food	12.98		12.98
General Supplies	252.52		252.52
Insurance (NON-SCA)			0.00
Occupancy & Site Charges	2610.65		2610.65
Other Expenses (Itemize on back)			0.00
SUBTOTAL	2876.15		2876.15

Moved to Another SCA Account
WITHIN KINGDOM
OUTSIDE KINGDOM (SCA Insurance) 100.00

TOTAL ACTUAL EXPENSES
2,976.15

NET PROFIT
(Total Actual Income - Total Actual Expenses) (54.15)

<Please note this is a summary based on the report, and is intended for informational purposes only.>

Is it period? Halloween

How did Halloween begin?

Ancient Celts began their year at the end of summer with the great festival of Samhain. All fires in Ireland were extinguished and started anew. Cattle that could not be overwintered were slaughtered. This was the start of the dark half of the year. The Otherworld was thought to be close at this time. This offered opportunities for divination, but also was a time when folk stayed inside and practiced protective rituals. Offerings might be left to appease the faerie folk or restless souls which might be roaming that evening.

How did it get associated with witches, black cats and pumpkins?

Samhain was celebrated many centuries before the birth of Christ. After Ireland was Christianized in the 4th-6th century AD, some of the pagan rituals of protection gradually became incorporated into the new religion as All Hallows (All Saints) Day November 1 and the evening before became All Hallows Eve (or Hallowe'en). The Roman Catholic Church also celebrates All Souls Day November 2 to honor the departed, much as the pagan Celts did at Samhain. Other rituals, such as divination, were considered hopelessly pagan and became punishable offenses although relatively harmless divination such as maidens trying to catch a glimpse of their future husbands persisted almost to the present. Pagan Celts had put lights around the house for protection, some of which possibly may have been carved vegetables, but pumpkins are from the New World and were first described to Europeans by Jacques Cartier in 1584 as "pompions" (large melons). The rituals honoring Cernunnos, a horned fertility deity, became demonized and confused with Satanism (which did not exist until after Christianity).

What about trick or treating?

The ritual of leaving offerings was transformed into “souling”, in which beggars would visit the houses asking for soul cakes (made with bread and currants) and in return would promise prayers for departed family members. Especially in Scotland guising (dressing as a spirit) because associated with souling. Trick or treating as we know it first became established in the US in the 1930’s and only spread to Europe in the past few decades.

Would your persona celebrate Halloween?

If you are a pre-Christian Celt, you celebrate New Years at Samhain. Others such as Romans conquering the Celts adopted some of the same customs. If you are a medieval Christian, you celebrate All Hallows and possibly visit the cemetery or light a candle for the dead on All Souls Day. If you’re young and a bit reckless you might try guising, souling, or mild divination to identify your true love.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(all events are as XLV unless otherwise noted)

October, 2010

Fall Crown Tourney Saturday October 9, 2010
Shire of Silfren Mere (Plainview MN)

The Youth Get a Castle, the Adults Get a Tent! Friday October 15-17, 2010
Barony of Caer Antherth Mawr (Kiel WI)

Middle Kingdom Cooks Collegium Saturday October 23, 2010
Kingdom of Middle (Roselle IL)

Brrr... A Dern Cold Day in Hale Resurrected! Saturday October 23, 2010
Shire of Coldedernhale (White River SD)

November, 2010

Early Period Symposium **CANCELLED, to be rescheduled** Saturday November 6, 2010
Barony of Jararvellir (Madison WI)

Feast of St Catherine's Saturday November 6, 2010
Shire of Western Keep (Volga SD)

Stellar University of Northshield (SUN) Saturday November 13, 2010
Barony of Nordskogen (Coon Rapids MN)

'till We Meade Again Saturday November 20, 2010
Village of Heorotdenu (Brandon MB)

Royal University of the Midrealm (RUM) Saturday November 20, 2010
Kingdom of Middle (Oak Brook IL)

December, 2010

Feast of Boar's Head XXXIV: The Thistle and the Rose
Saturday December 4, 2010
Barony of Caer Antherth Mawr (West Bend WI)

January, 2011

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)

It's Only a Flesh Wound Saturday January 29, 2011
Barony of Jararvellir (Jefferson WI)

Officers of Falcon's Keep

Seneschal: Arianna da Lucca (MKA Dona Panter)
 4321 80th St S Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494 715-213-2069
 arianna_rogan@yahoo.com

Deputy Seneschal: pending

Pursuivant: Lord Grimr inn Harfagri (MKA Dennis Russell)
 851 East Rd, Rib Lake, WI 54470
 715-427-0402 grimr_fairhair@yahoo.com

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: : vacant

Knights Marshall: Lord Justinian of Cherson (MKA Martin Wissmueller)
 1307 E 19th St, Marshfield, WI 54449
 justinian@tznet.com 715-387-3356

Marshall of Fence: Ysabella de Muerte (MKA Elizabeth Rundquist)
 3511 Airport Ave Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

Marshall of Archery: vacant

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: THL Alexandra Wasserman
 (MKA Terri Harteau)

Minister of Youth: vacant

Chronicler: Pedro de Benavides (MKA Bart Forman)
 620 N Ash Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449
 otrable@gmail.com

Deputy Chronicler: vacant

Chatelaine: Marie Dudely
 615 N Ash Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449
 715-387-4203 azeidler03@yahoo.com

Deputy Chatelaine: vacant

Web Minister: Lord Robert the Mailer (MKA Robert Brainard)
 4530 77th St S, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
 715-213-0924 robertb11777@gmail.com

Deputy Web Minister: vacant

The Mewsletter
Bart Forman
620 North Ash Avenue
Marshfield WI 54449