

# 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
Minutes from previous moots	Page 6-7
Ask Alex	Page 8-9
Brewers, Vintners and Cooks	Page 9
The Rape of Tara	Page 10-11
What is Tara?	Page 12
Calendar	Page 13
September Moot	Page 14
Officers of the Shire	Page 15

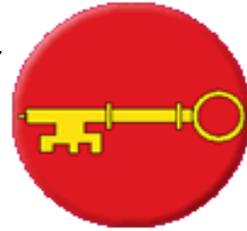
## Disclaimer

This is The Mewsletter and it 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. 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!*



Greeting Keepers-

First I would to say thank you to all of those who worked to make Poorman's a success. Without all your hard work the event could not have gone as well as it did. Thank you Asli for taking on this event and putting together a great team. We will have some big decisions concerning Poorman's next year, and I hope the shire is up to the challenge. We will be looking into other site information as well as trying to negotiate for our current site. If you have any site ideas please take a look at the meeting minutes from August and collect the requested information for review at the November moot.

We also need to start looking for an Autocrat, site and date for Haire Affaire. We have lots of work ahead of us, but I know we're up to it.

Thank you all. See you at the next moot!

YIS  
Mary of Falcon's Keep

Cover credit: Paulette anne de Nedlere

Many thanks for this original piece of artwork. This is exactly the kind of thing I want for the cover of the Mewsletter

## *The Chronicler's Quill*

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



Finally I am back in town and expect to be able to attend the next moot. We do have several issues related to the chronicler to discuss.

First, as I have mentioned in the last several columns we are considering going to a mostly electronic Mewsletter with the only paper copies being for those who really do not have email access and for Kingdom officers and Royalty. For those like me who have electronic access but also like to have a paper copy in their hand we hope to be able to modify the electronic format so that it can be printed as a booklet if desired.

Secondly, we need to discuss the type of material we want in the Mewsletter. Clearly the biggest problems has been getting people to submit anything. I am delighted this time to have an original drawing for the cover! I am also pleased that "Ask Alex" is back after a hiatus while Alex and Janivier were preoccupied with their move. I also thank Cat for her submission. I hope that I have not offended anyone by including something that is in part mundane politics. In general the focus of the Mewsletter should be on what is going on in the Shire and the Kingdom. We have plenty of politics in the SCA and as a non-profit we are supposed to minimize discussion of mundane religion, politics, etc. Tara, however, is a very special place especially to those of us with Celtic personnas. 35 years ago I was recruited into the SCA by Mistress Deirdre Muldomnhaigh and her husband Liam of the Barque. When Liam died, Deirdre scattered his ashes there. I hope they remain undisturbed.

YIS  
Ealasaid

## Anachronists Book Review:

### Lady Eve of Lynn

This months work of non fiction was a big mistake on my part, The title alone takes up more then the width of this page, Gregory Pegg, a well known historian, has written *A most Holy War: the Albigensian Crusade and the Battle for Christendom*. This body of work is aimed at devoted scholars, which I am not. If you are armed with a magnifying glass and huge dictionary you might finish it some time this year. I doubt if I will.

Diane A.S. Stuckart is new to the Midlevel Mystery genre. She has in the past used the pen names Alexa Smart and Anna Gerard. *The Queen's Gambit* is her fist venture into the mystery field. The author takes us to the court the Duke of Milan. The duke's court engineer is Leonardo de Vinci. Ludovico Storza aka II Moro and the French ambassador are involved in a chess game with members of the duke's court taking the place of the chess pieces. During a rest in the game the white Bishop is found to be missing. He is found by one of Leonardo's apprentices and the adventure begins.

I was disappointed in the movie version of *The Other Boleyn Girl*.

This was a poorly done costume play, rather then the fine work done by Phillip Gregory in bringing Mary Boleyn to life in her book. I doubt if any one will see any more of the author's work on the screen after this fiasco. I have yet to see a movie that is as good as the book.



**Meeting minutes 07-27-2008**

1. The next moot will be August 10th at North Wood Couty Park.
2. We are still looking for some one to host the moot in November and December. November should be in Marshfield. December should be in Wisconsin Rapids.
3. There will be a demo on Sept. 13 in the Tomahawk area. If you are interested in going to the demo or just want more info you can contact Alessandro at [chaosgeneral@charter.net](mailto:chaosgeneral@charter.net)
4. We discussed making the newsletter a free publication. There was a voted called on the subject. The descision was passed by all present to publish the newsletter for free. We also discussed the need for newer software for publishing the newsletter. We wil discuss the further when we have more information from Mistress Ealasaïd.
5. Mistress Ealasaïd is still looking for art work, articles and extras for the newsletter.
6. If you notice any errors on the web site please contact Lady Reina so she can get the information corrected.
7. There is nothing new to report for arts and sciences.
8. We reviewed the map for Poorman's Pennsic.
9. Asli gave us an update on the preparations for Poorman's.
10. Mary talked about donations for the chili feed.
11. Discussion was brought up about purchasing additional arrows for the shire to use. The subject will be voted on at the next moot.

Meeting adjourned.

**Meeting minutes 08-10-08**

1. We are still looking for some one to host the November moot in Marshfield and the December moot in Wisconsin Rapids.

2. Remider there will be a demo September 13th at the "castle" being built in Tomahawk. If you need more info or are looking to car pool you can contact Lord Alessandro at chaosgeneral@charter.net

3. The next fighter practice (08-11-08) will be in Wisconsin Rapids at Asli's house.

4. There were a total of 228 adults, 72 children, 115 tents, and 13 merchants for Poorman's.

5. We discussed the site issues that we had this year and talked about ideas for new sites. We will have further discussion on this in November when we will have more information. If you have any ideas for a new site please obtain the following information and bring it to the November meeting .

Site information:

1. fee (thursday-sunday)
2. usable space(site size)
3. ammenities (bathrooms, showers, potable water)
4. parking space
5. restricted access
6. location to major roads
7. extras

6. We voted on purchasing additional arrows for the shire. The vote was passed by all present.

7. Thank you to all those who donated to the chili feed. We had many come to eat and share in our hospitality.

Meeting adjourned.

## Ask Alex

What can I wear, or more importantly, what can't I wear?

Garb is considered clothing that would have been worn prior to 1600. This can range from a T-tunic (think oversized t-shirt with a belt) to full blown Elizabethan. The t-tunic is a great piece of garb, and is the first outfit for many people. I think everyone has at least one in their closet. It can be very simple or dressed up with trim, several colors or layered to give a different look. For some time periods and areas, this is the garb that is most appropriate. Even with a rather large garb closet, I often use t-tunics for work garb or camp garb. They can have long sleeves or short, go to the hip or the ankle, be tight fitting or have large dangling sleeves and a full skirt.



The choice of garb is very wide ranging and will vary depending on the time period and location you choose. Even with a limited budget, you can put together some really nice garb. What really finishes off any outfit will be the accessories. This is where some of the 'rules' come into play. Some items are reserved for individuals who have achieved a particular honor or award.

When looking for a belt, your safest bet is to go with black or brown. This is because many colors have specific meanings. Knight is the highest SCA award for armored combat. Pelican is the highest SCA award for service and Laurel is the highest SCA award for the arts and sciences.

White = Knight

Red = Squire (Student of a Knight)

Yellow = Protégés (Student of a Pelican)

Green = Apprentice (Student of a Laurel)

Also, scarves worn on or over the shoulder should not be white or red. White is reserved for Dons/Donnas and red is for Cadets (Student of a Don/Donna). Don is the highest award for rapier in many Kingdoms. Some other Kingdoms use a bronze colored scarf for their highest rapier award, the bronze ring.

An unadorned gold chain is reserved for a Knight and an unadorned silver chain indicates a squire. A headband less than one inch in diameter is ok to wear, but larger than that is reserved for nobility. This includes crowns and tiaras. Last time I went over many of the types of crowns and coronets.

If you have any questions, please ask if it would be appropriate. As you go to events and meetings, take a look at what other people are wearing. Most of us love to talk about what we are wearing and will be happy to answer any questions and help you get started.

If you have any questions or ideas for topics for me to cover, please contact me at [terris@tznet.com](mailto:terris@tznet.com). I am running out of ideas and can use your help!

Alexandra der Wasserman

## **Brewers, Vintners and Cooks**

During the moot on Sept 20 at Alex and Janvier's we will experiment with period breadmaking using barm from brewing beer to raise the bread and baking outside in a dutch oven.

If you are interested in the doughmaking process, you should try to be at the moot by 12:30 as we will mix and knead the dough so it can be rising during the moot. Taste testing will be at or following the potluck.

We hope to see you there,

Ealasaid

## the rape of the hill of tara

The first rule of Archaeology is “do not dig!” Every site is a historic book written only once.

Methods used to reveal the past are always improving. Therefore work is done to discover the general size, type and dates of any one site in order to mark it for possible preservation. You do not strip down the whole site.

If testing proves the area contains information it will be listed as an archaeology site. It is not just the objects, but the whole complex that is important to preserve. When possible, sacred historic sites like ancient ceremonial centers and burial sites are left alone for preservation. Their cherished uniqueness is what makes these sites and objects worth the extensive expenditure of labor and money to preserve them. Just writing down where everything was is only a journal of the lost. Also writing down where most of the objects came from is just salvage work done as a last measure. What is commonly seen on TV is excavation on important sites that are endangered by destruction from natural degradation or human development.

That is why what is happening in Ireland right now is so appalling. In order to relieve Dublin’s traffic problems, the government is building a highway right through farmland steeped in sacred cultural sites. The construction of the road has uncovered at least 40 sites worth preservation.

The Hill of Tara Complex was the seat of power for Celtic Chieftains. The whole area is known to be filled with Stone, Bronze, Iron, Viking and Early Medieval Age sites. One such is a henge monument that has been found to be over 260 feet in diameter.

Would you love to drive right through the Vatican? Who cares if you are driving over centuries of history? Should the Egyptian government put a road through the Giza Complex and take a chunk out of the corner of the pyramids to make the drive safer? Or place a road through the Hopi's First Mesa and violate their private sacred space?

Sacred, really, does it matter?

Why destroy our most sacred, rare assets?

The European Commission is looking into legal action to protect Ireland's heritage. "Save Tara" is a group working to save the Tara Hill Complex.

Protecting the sacred sites and keeping them in their original location is the goal. For more information please check out:

Archaeology, January/February 2008, "Lismullin Henge, Gabhra Valley, Ireland", p. 22, by Jarrett A. Lobell.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/01/080114-tara-ireland.html>

<http://www.savetara.com/>

go to "you tube" and type in "Save Tara" or "Tara News."

Catriona Roche  
a.k.a. Catherine A. Woodruff

Editorial note:

While we usually avoid mundane politics in this publication, the article also mentions the past and is written by one of our own.

Ealasaid

## what was tara?

Tara was the seat of the High Kings of Ireland. According to legend, Tara was built by the Firbolg (an ancient Celtic group said to have arrived in Ireland from Greece) and captured in battle by the more technologically advanced Tuatha de Danann (another early Irish group reputedly semi-divine). The kings during this golden age were known for their wisdom, artistic skills and hospitality. Eventually a new group, the Milesians (Celts from Spain) arrived in Ireland about 1000BC. The capitol remained at Tara and it was from there in 240 that the Irish King Cormac extended his rule to Scotland. Records of the time indicate that Tara was very large, housing 1050 people and having a great banquet hall 760 feet long, 46 feet wide and 45 feet high where the King was served by 150 warriors who stood in his presence and 150 cupbearers bearing jeweled cups of gold and silver. Although the poet Amergin MacAmlaid who wrote this description may have exaggerated some features, the foundations of this great hall were visible until fairly recent times allowing confirmation of it's great size.

Although the line of the High Kings ended with the last pagan King Diarmuid in 563, and a curse reputedly prevented a king from ever again living there, Tara remained a cultural center. At a great synod there in 697 the decision was made to exempt women from military service. (The fact that at least some women had felt an obligation to military service tells us something about the differences between Ireland and the rest of Europe at this time.) The famous "Tara brooch" is an example of Irish early Christian art which was found at Tara.

Ealasaid

Information from: McManus, Seumas. The Story of the Irish Race. Devin-Adair, Connecticut 1978.

**CALENDAR****September 2008**

- 5-7 Seige the Day [Shattered Oak-Hixton, WI]
- 5-7 Revel by the Lake [Mistig Waetru-Barag, WI]
- 6 Northshield Rapier Academy [Korsvay-Fargo ND]
- 13 Coronation [Orlovia Dolina-Bemidji MN]
- 18-21 Cecil's Siege [Svaty Sebesta-Vermillion, SD]
- 26-28 Rose Tourney [Nordskogen-Clarks Grove, MN]
- 27 Peasants Revolt [Rudivale-Arvilla ND]

**October 2008**

- 3-4 Art-ic Madness [Tor Aerie, Minneaopolis, MN]
- 11 Crown tournament [Midewinde-Minot ND]
- 18 Creating the Creative SCA101 [Nordskogen-Andover MN]
- 25 Masquerade III [Dreibruken-Bismark ND]

**November 2008**

- 1 Heraldic & Scribal Symposium [Coldedernehale, Pierre, SD]
- 7-9 Knowm World Academy of Rapier [Midrealm]
- 8 Clothiers Seminar North [Nordskogen-Coon Rapids MN]
- 8 Rhythm and Bruise [Korsvag-Moorhead MN]
- 22 Bardic Madness [Gray Gargolyes-Chicago, Midrealm]

**December 2008**

- 13 Boars Head[Caer Anterth Mawr-West Band WI]

**January 2009**

- 10 Twelfth Night [Nordskogen-Columbia heights, MN]
- 31 It's Only a Flesh Wound [Jararvellir-Jefferson WI]

**March 2009**

- 15-22 Gulf Wars

**Rapier practice is following a summer rotation including: the homes of Lord Alessandro in Rothschild , THL Alex in Stratford (they have moved) and Asli in Rapids. Please watch for email from Lord Vincent.**

## **September Moot**

**Saturday September 20th, 2008**

**meeting 1pm, potluck to follow**

**at the new home of THL's Alex and Janvier**

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 strip club) Long Dr is on the left. We are at the end of Long Dr.

From Wausau/ Stevens Point - Take the Mosinee exit off of I39. Pick up directions at \*\*.

From Marshfield - Take County Highway Y (Becker Road) out of Marshfield until County Highway M. Turn right. 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](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)

## *Officers of Falcon's Keep*

Seneschal: Lady Mary of Falcon's Keep (MKA Mary Welker)  
 104 Florence St, Wausau, WI  
 715-297-1230 venom@charter.net

Deputy Seneschal: Lord Justinian

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 Isabeau of Winter Rose (MKA Alyce Knutson)  
 3230 Reber Dr, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494  
 715-421-0953 3230knut@tznet.com

Deputy Exchequer: Maebh de Blancheville

Knights Marshall: Lord Robert the Mase  
 mase@charter.net, 715-347-4999

Marshall of Fence: Lord Vincent Palmer (MKA Conan James)  
 1215 Parker Ave Apt 10, Mosinee, WI 54455  
 715-693-7369 nomed@mtc.net

Marshall of Archery: vacant

Minister of Arts & Sciences:  
 Lady Emelye Ambroys (MKA Tabitha Degenhardt)  
 620 N Ash Ave, Marshfield WI 54449  
 emilyambrose@charter.net

Deputy Minister of Arts & Sciences: Oz the Baker

Minister of Youth: vacant

Chronicler:  
 Mistress Ealasaid nic Phearsoinn (MKA Elspeth Christianson)  
 C3808 Heartland Hills Rd, Stratford, WI 54484  
 715-687-4870 ealasaid27@gmail.com

Deputy Chronicler: vacant

Chatelaine: Lord Alessandro of Falcon's Keep (MKA Jason Welker)  
 104 Florence St, Wausau, WI  
 715-297-0718 chaosgeneral@charter.net

Deputy Chatelaines: Lord Gabriel Michalik

Web Minister: Lady Reina Gunnora (MKA Raynee Randall)  
 1934 Eva Rd Apt 5, Mosinee, WI 54455  
 715-572-3079 reina\_gunnora@yahoo.com

Deputy Web Minister: Guinevere Aloisia of Falcon's Keep

The Mewsletter  
Elspeth Christianson  
C3808 Heartland Hills Road  
Stratford, WI 54484

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