



The Mudpuppy

The official newsletter of the
Barony of Settmour Swamp

AS XLVIII – January 2015



Swamp Stomp

January 10, 2015

Masked Ball

Feast of Fools — Lord and Lady of Misrule

(see schedule page 2, details page 3)

(Lord of Misrule explained on page 13)



Baroness and Baron Letter

So the sun begins his slow return as the new year shines forth.
Like the sun, you are all the bright rays of Settmour Swamp.

To celebrate the New Year join us on January 10th for the next **Swamp Stomp**, a masked ball has been planned and a lord and lady of misrule will be selected for some fun. We ask that you dress in garb if dancing, and bring a pot luck item to share.

The next weekend (January 17) journey to our neighbor Carillion, to attend Bellringers, to partake of our [Kingdom's 12th Night feast](#), and greet their new Baron and Baroness with us. We will need retainers so if you are free and are willing to help please contact us. You will also find her Excellency Jehannine roaming the marketplace at [Birka](#) the weekend of January 23-24th, your company would be very welcomed if you are attending.

(continued on page 4)



Swamp Stomp January 10, 2015

Masked Ball

Feast of Fools—Lord and Lady of Misrule

Location:

The Glen Gardner Youth Center
16 Hampton Rd
Glen Gardner, NJ, 08826

1:00	Swamp Stomp Opening	
1:20	Dancing	Sellinger's Round
1:40	Dancing	Gathering Peascods
2:00	Dancing	Gay Gordons
2:20	Pot Luck Dinner	
2:40	Lord & Lady of Misrule Pot Luck Dinner continues	Selection of Lord & Lady of Misrule (coin in cakes)
3:00	Lord & Lady of Misrule	Foolish Court & Foolish Awards
3:20	Lord & Lady of Misrule	Foolish Jousting on Hobby Horses
3:40	Dancing	Hole in the Wall with Simple Stealing
4:00	Dancing	Trenchmore
4:20	Dancing	Rufty Tufty
4:40	Dancing	Picking Up Sticks

Their Majesties Announce Changes For Tournament Marshaling

East Kingdom Gazette

<http://eastkingdomgazette.org/2014/12/27/their-majesties-announce-changes-for-tournament-marshaling/>

SCA Membership, New Website Online, **Change your Password!**

- 1) go to WWW.SCA.ORG
- 2) CLICK ON MEMBER SERVICES,
- 3) CLICK ON MANAGE YOUR MEMBERSHIP
- 4) log in with your member number and
default password (first initial and last name, for example Jennifer O'Hara would use johara)

The system will send you a confirmation-email and prompt you to update your password.



Preparation for the Masked Ball—January 10 at Glen Gardner

Dance Practice

Dance Practice is on alternate Tuesdays at the Glen Gardner practice. One dance will be taught each evening by Baroness Ursula. The dance will be taught from 7:45 to 8:00 pm. Fencing and fighting will take place as usual with only this small 15 min break for the dance lesson.

The following videos and printed steps may help you to remember the dances:

Sellenger's Round

<http://dancevideos.childgrove.org/ece/playford/179-sellengers-round>

Rufty Tufty

<http://dancevideos.childgrove.org/ece/playford/139-rufty-tufty>

Hole in the Wall

<http://dancevideos.childgrove.org/ece/playford/78-the-hole-in-the-wall>



Masks for the Masque

Duchess Kiena has offered to make Embroidered Masks. There are 3 mask patterns:

Raven

Elvin - this mask can be the original pattern (see Blue and Green mask, below) or you can choose to have both sides match using either the right or left side.

Cat

Masks can be all one color, bi-color (Blue and Green, below) or two-toned (Pink on White, below)

Regardless of the pattern or the color choice, she is offering these masks to Swampies for \$10 (unassembled) up until the Masque. Many color choices are available.

There are more pictures in the Mask photo gallery on Kiena's Facebook page.

https://www.facebook.com/KienaStewart/media_set?set=a.921048201256390.1073741836.100000536574757&type=3



4.





Baroness and Baron Letter (continued)

The [Black Gryphon Inn](#) will open its doors on February 7th, come tell tales and sing songs as we choose our next Bardic Baronial Champion. Come celebrate the retreat of the Roman oppressors with the Canton of Gryphonwald, through fun and games and a glorious Celtic feast.

The [Mudthaw](#) tournament will proceed at a bright New Location, the historic Waterloo Village. All the contests you love will be present, our double-elim heavy tournament, fencing, thrown weapons, A&S, Breadbaking. Check the event announcement and plan accordingly, since some changes had to be made due to the new site. Please spread the word about the new site, and consider bringing a friend and introduce them to us.

Another year filled with sweet memories and joyous times has passed. Settmour Swamp, you have made the year special and we wish you continue to do so. In starting the New Year consider the resolution of getting involved, events like these require the hands of many people to make them happen, and with such a great Barony every moment is a special occasion for us, and we hope you will join us for the great year ahead. We wish you a very Happy New Year!

Baron Erec and

Baroness Jehannine



Maerhild will autocrat Black Gryphon Inn

Greetings fellow Swampies! Your beloved Canton of Gryphonwald has been quite a-buzz with activity as we begin planning our annual event, [Black Gryphon Inn](#) or commonly known as **BGI**.

Black Gryphon Inn will take place at the beginning of February 2015, as usual.

This year's BGI will be autocrated by **Lady Maerhild**.

The BGI cooks for this year's feast will be **Failenn Finn** and **Aife bean Macl'omhair**

Lady Maerhild has been autocrating events for some time now, while Aife and I are just dipping our toes into the "feast-o-crating" positions. Keep your ear to the ground for more details and an event announcement shortly!

YIS,

Failenn Finn

Seneschale of Gryphonwald



Seneschale Notes

Greetings Swamp!

As we welcome in the New Year I want to thank everyone for all the hard work and support they have given to me and the Barony throughout 2014. I am proud and humbled to be part of such a great Barony and I look forward to the coming year.

We have many exciting events already planned, [BGI](#) is right around the corner I am sure Gryphonwald will put on another great event. If you would like to lend a hand putting this together let Lady Maerhild know.

Magister Galefridus is working hard to put our [Mudthaw](#) event together at our new location, Waterloo Village, in Stanhope, NJ. As this is a new site, many things we have taken for granted over the last years are having to be redesigned and rethought. Please lend a hand and keep an eye out for help requests; many hands allow

everyone to enjoy more of the fun.

[Quest](#) is also moving along nicely. Baroness Ursula has rounded up a wonderful crew to present a fun filled weekend with good food and an exciting Quest adventure. Here again, anyone interested in helping is more than welcome.

At our December meeting, Willa de la Mer was voted head cook for Mudthaw, Baroness Merlinia was voted head cook for Quest and Pyotr will be the author of this year's Quest. A great Vivat to these gentles for volunteering their considerable talents.

Also, at our December meeting, Caterina Giaocchini and Dalek Bolotnikov were both voted to continue in their posts as Minister of A&S and Webmaster

respectively.

Last, I hope to see you all at our upcoming Swamp Stomp and Masked Ball to be held on Jan 10th at our Glen Gardner practice site. See the announcement in this issue of the Mudpuppy.

Yours in Service,
**Lady Charis
Seneschale**



QUEST XXXI —preliminary plans underway

Preliminary plans for [QUEST](#) XXXI (May 22 to 25) are underway. We will be at the Clinton Elks Lodge in Pittstown, NJ. **Lord Pyotr** will write and organize the Quest. The goal of questers is to find the treasures of Timbuktu. The questers must gather items in the markets of Marrakesh to prepare an expedition. **Baroness Merlinia** will serve as head cook.

Baroness Ursula, Quest Event Steward



Mudthaw

March 28th, 2015

Waterloo Village, Stanhope, NJ



Mudthaw Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/688398337947074/>

Mudthaw

Event date: March 28th, 2015

Event details

On this the feast of Saint Alkeld of Giggleswick, Their Excellencies Erec and Jehannine, Baron and Baroness of Settmour Swamp, invite the Known World to celebrate the Thawing of the Mud.

Please join us on 28 March at our **new location at Waterloo Village in Stanhope NJ** for tournaments of martial skill in armored combat, fencing, and youth fighting. We will also celebrate the arts and sciences with a grand display and competition, an artisans' row, and our traditional bread baking competition. There will be shopping with some of the finest merchants from around the known world. And to cap off the day, we will have a wonderful feast prepared by Lady Willa de la Mer.

The armored combat tournament will be fought in the traditional Mudthaw double elimination format. The tournament will begin promptly at noon. There will be tournaments for fencing, and youth fighting. The fencing tournament will begin at 12:00 PM. Youth combat will begin at 12:30.

For those inclined to the Arts and Sciences, we will be hosting a display and competition to show off finished products, run by Lady Marion Quyn. The theme of the competition will be MUD! Please note that state park regulations prohibit alcohol from being brought on site, which unfortunately will prevent brewing-related entries or demonstrations. Please contact Lady Marion at marion.quyn@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Mudthaw Arts and Sciences Competition:

This Competition is open to any and all who would enter. There will be a Competition Winner and a Populace Choice Winner. The site opens at 10:00 am and judging will begin at 1:00.

Rules

1. All entries must be mud-themed.
2. All entries must have been created within the past 2 years.
3. All culinary entries must include a full ingredient lists. Modern sanitary considerations must be taken in their preparation. Entrants are responsible for keeping cold food cold and hot food hot.
4. Research papers must be sent in prior to Mudthaw to allow for proper review. Please bring a hard copy for presentation amongst the other entrants. Send Research paper entries to **Marion Quyn** at



Mudthaw (continued)

March 28th, 2015

marion.quyn@gmail.com by 1 March 2015 to ensure enough time for review.

Entries will be judged as follows:

Theme: Mud-related

Workmanship: construction, attention to detail, presentation;

Creativity: originality, interpretation;

Complexity: complexity of the design, difficulty, research and scope;

Authenticity: historical accuracy or interpretation;

Documentation: thoroughness, use and citation of historical sources, ideas demonstrated.

There will be an A&S Display space laid out for those not wishing to enter the competition but still desiring to display.

Please pick up your entries and displays 1 hour before court.

Those interested in judging please contact Marion Quyn at marion.quyn@gmail.com. Judging sheets will be available on site.

We will also be holding an Artisans Row, run by Mistress Elizabeth Elenore Lovell. Please contact her if you are interested in participating at staceyrothrock@gmail.com or 732-207-9658 732-207-9658 (calls between 10am and 7pm only please).

Those who are interested in participating in the annual Mudthaw bread baking competition should contact Lady Judith bas Rabbi Mendel (mcmendelsohn@optimum.net). All entries must include a full ingredient list and documentation. Judges will give preference to those entries which could have been made in period.

Finally, Athena's Thimble will be holding a panel. For information please contact the Guild Mistress: Mistress Briony of Chatham guildmistress@athenasthimble.com

Please note that **no dayboard will be provided** at this event. We encourage you to provide your own food for the day, and we are arranging to have a food vendor on site.

As noted above, state park regulations **prohibit alcoholic beverages** from being brought on site; however, a **cash bar serving beer and wine** will be open from 1:00 PM until 8:00 PM.

Finally, since Waterloo Village is a carry in - carry out facility, we are asking that all attendees take responsibility for packing out their own trash. Plastic bags will be available at Troll for this purpose.

Feast menu:

First Course:

Chickpea Puree - Hummus with ginger and cinnamon

Flatbread

Frutours - Beer battered apple slices

Chike Endored - Chicken breast baked in ginger, pepper and saffron coating served on skewers

Mushroom Tart with cheese and cloves in crust

Asparagus



Mudthaw (continued)

March 28th, 2015

Second Course:

Mylates of Pork - pork with pine nuts and powder forte served in a double crust

Loseyns - Lasagna with muenster cheese and seasonings

Carrots

Crusty bread with spread

Pears Confyt - Pears poached in red wine and glazed

Tentative Schedule:

10:00-Site opens

10:00-Merchants open -- Meeting House

10:00-A&S Set-Up open -- North Hall

10:30-Armor inspections and authorization bouts

12:00-Artisans' Row opens -- North Hall

12:00-Armored combat tournament begins

12:00-Rapier tournament

12:30-Youth fighting

1:00-Arts and sciences

1:00-Baking competition -- North Hall

1:00-Cash bar opens -- Meeting House

3:00-Artisans' Row closes -- North Hall

3:00-Marshall activities end

4:00-Baronial Court -- North Hall

4:30-Royal Court -- North Hall

5:00-Merchants close

7:00-Feast -- Meeting House

8:00-Cash bar closes

9:00-Feast ends

9:30-Site closes (anyone staying afterwards, we thank you for helping to clean)

Site Opens: 10am

Site Closes: 9:30pm



Event Location

Waterloo Village

Waterloo Valley Rd

Stanhope, NJ 07874

Directions:

Take your best route to exit 25 on I-80 in New Jersey. After 1/2 mile, bear right, following signs to Waterloo Village. In 0.6 mi., turn left on Continental Drive. After one mile, turn left on Waterloo Rd. After 1.2 mi., turn left on Waterloo Valley Rd. Parking will be on your right.

Alternatively, point your GPS to 40° 54' 52" N, 74° 45' 34" W.

Waterloo Village Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Waterloo-Village/160311250763716?>



Mudthaw (continued)

March 28th, 2015

Event Fees

Site : Site fee:

Adult Members: \$10

Adult Non-Members: \$15

Minors (6-17): \$5

Minors (0-5): free

Merchants: \$20 (includes site fee for one person)

Feast: Feast will be \$9 per person in addition to the site fee.

ACCEPS reservations will be set up shortly.

Make Checks Payable to: SCA NJ Inc., Barony of Settmour Swamp

Feast: The feast fee will be \$9. Please register by 14 March 2015 if you are planning on attending the feast. We will be seating 100 persons.

For questions about the menu or any special needs, please contact the head chef:

Lady Willa de la Mer

jessica.lynnemcc@gmail.com

845-544-4010 845-544-4010 (leave message)

Event Steward:

Magister Galefridus Peregrinus

mka Loren D Mendelsohn

3 Morris Pl

Towaco NJ 07082

galefridus@optimum.net

(973) 214-4957 (973) 214-4957 (no calls after 10pm)

Send Reservations to:

Lord Miles Boweman

c/o Michael Iurilli

806 Benner Street

Highland Park, NJ 08904

miles.boweman@gmail.com

908-307-8672 908-307-8672 (no calls after 9pm)

Merchant Coordinator:

THL Þórlæifr hvítskegg

anteckd@aol.com

908-406-0143

no calls after 9pm





Tuesday Night Fighting & Rapier Practice & A&S

The **heavy weapon practice** and **rapier practice** meets most Tuesday nights.

We will also be hosting an **Arts & Science (A&S) gathering** to work on various projects for the Swamp. **Dance practice** will occur on alternate Tuesdays. Or just come and watch, or bring a project of your own. All are welcome. There will be fencing and room for heavy weapons practice, if a marshal is available.

Contact [Orlando](#) with questions.

Location:

The Glen Gardner Youth Center
16 Hampton Rd
Glen Gardner, NJ, 08826

Time:

Tuesdays 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Suggested Donation:

\$7 per person



Note: all artwork, photos and creative articles are used with permission. Each item is marked with a number. The numbers refer to the list of contributors which is shown on the last page of this issue.



Nutley Heavey Weapons Fight Practice (photos by Liz Basedow)

The heavy weapon practice, Nutley, NJ.

Contact [Wulfgar](#) Silfrahaar with questions.

Location:

Franklin Reformed Church,
45 Hillside Crescent
Nutley, NJ 07110

Day/Time:

Wednesdays 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm

Suggested Donation:

\$5 per person



Chronicler Notes

The January issue of the Mudpuppy is devoted to Feast of Fools and the Lord and Lady of Misrule in the Barony of Settmour Swamp.

I had great fun recalling ancient Swamp events and digging through my photo collection looking for photos of past Feasts of Fools. I also conducted a great deal of investigation to identify reliable sources of the actual history of the Feast of Fools.

Please contact me if you have ideas for an article.

If you have a new or old story of the Swamp to tell, please send it to me.

Thanks to Ceara and Peter for encouragement, and excellent proofreading .

Baroness Ursula of North Woods,

[Chronicler](#)



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Culinary Institute of America (CIA), Day Trip December 6





Feast of Fools & Lord and Lady of Misrule in the Swamp By Baroness Ursula

The Feast of Fools is an ancient Medieval festival that is often celebrated at Twelfth Night events in the SCA. The key feature of the Feast of Fools is the selection of a Lord and/or Lady of Misrule (or a boy bishop) to hold a foolish court. For this one day the anyone can be raised in status, make foolish proclamations, and conduct a foolish court.

Historically, the Lord and Lady of Misrule were selected by finding a bean in a Twelfth Night Cake. In the SCA we tend to use coins in small cakes or cookies.

We will have a Feast of Fools for the January 10 Swamp Stomp and Masked Ball (see page 2).

The first time I was the Lady of Misrule was decades ago (~1978) in the Middle Kingdom. I had never head of this tradition and had no idea that there might be a coin lurking in my piece of cake, which lay ignored on my plate. Eventually the entertainment-o-crat very insistently made an announcement for eveyone to carefully check their cake for the coin. I still had no idea what was going on. I poked my fork at my cake and bingo. I had the coin. The entertainment-o-crat excitedly gave me an urgent command:

BE FUNNY!

What? Me? Be funny? Well I am not a naturally funny person, so I was initially totally flummoxed. I had no idea about the rules of this game or the fact that I was expected to hold a Foolish Court and **entertain everyone**. I had to select my own Lord of Fools and had no crown, scepter, script or suggestions to work from. Surprisingly it all worked out OK and I held a foolish court.

In the Swamp we have had a Lord and/or Lady of Misrule twice, with far more pre-planning. In 2006, Baroness Pagain and Baron Teric chose PJ as the Lord of Misrule. They organized silly games like Pin the Tail on the Baron (using a near life-size poster of Baron Teric) and a hoop toss.

2.



2.

2.





Feast of Fools & Lord and Lady of Misrule in the Swamp (continued)

That Twelfth Night was unfortunately interrupted by an ice storm.



6

A decade earlier, in the Swamp (around 1996), I had organized a Feast of Fools celebration for a January Schola. Based on the chaos of my own experience in the Middle Kingdom, I added much more organization so that no one would ever be faced with that most intimidating of commands, “be funny”.

First there were two coins, one for the Lady of Misrule and one for the Lord of Misrule.

A key point is that anyone can get either coin.

- The Lord of Misrule may not be **male** and
- The Lady of Misrule may not be **female**.

In fact, at the Swamp's (~1996) Feast of Fools, **Awndreuis** was the **Lady of Misrule** and Bruce (from Iron Bog) was the Lord of Misrule. We also had several guards and a court jester, all chosen by the coins in the cookies. I had simple costumes and paper coronets for the Lord and Lady of Misrule. As the Lady of Misrule, Awndreuis wore a long blonde wig, female garb and a bit of make up. The court was lightly scripted, so the Lord and Lady had small gifts to give out and silly awards to present. The foolish guards helped to drag **victims** candidates for silly awards into the Foolish Court.

We will have a Feast of Fools for the January 10 Swamp Stomp and Masked Ball (see page 2).

We will choose the Lord and Lady of Misrule by finding coins in gingerbread small cakes. The Lord and Lady of Misrule will conduct a foolish court and bestow foolish awards and tokens. There will be hobby horse jousting for the entertainment of our Lord and Lady of Misrule.

Baroness Ursula of North Woods



Feast of Fools & Lord and Lady of Misrule in the Swamp (continued)

Further Reading:

George Ferrers (c. 1500 – 1579)

<http://www.dictionarycentral.com/definition/lord-of-misrule.html>

“The most celebrated Lord of Misrule was George Ferrers, who organized lavish spectacles for the court of Edward VI: these included a mock naval battle on the Thames and **a joust of hobby horses**”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Ferrers

“Ferrers was reappointed as Lord of Misrule to devise entertainments during the 1552-1553 Christmas season, and as in the previous year there were **jousting**, a mock midsummer show...”

A letter in the Folger Shakespeare Library Digital Image Collection signed by G. Ferrers:

“The Lord of Misrule **orders twelve hobby horses**...”

<http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/detail/FOLGERCM1~6~6~798826~151256:Ferrers,-George--Warrant-for-hobby->

There are many wonderful paintings that depict the wild antics of Twelfth Night celebrations. These paintings are not reproduced here due to copyright considerations. However a quick search on Google images for “**Twelfth Night King Drinks**” brings up many similar rowdy images of Twelfth Night celebrations.

Three particularly wonderful examples are:

Twelfth Night (The King Drinks), c.1634-1640 by **David Teniers the Younger** (1610—1690)

The King drinks!, ca. 1645 by **Jacob Jordaens** (1593-1678),

Twelfth Night, ca.1668 **by Jan Steen** (1626—1679)

These are delightful images of wanton excess.



Feast of Fools & Lord and Lady of Misrule in the Swamp (continued)

Further Reading (con'd)

Historical descriptions often exist in complaints from the Church hierarchy, in particular, in a letter written in 1445 by the Dean of the Faculty of Theology at Paris.

Sacred Folly: A New History of the Feast of Fools, Max Harris, 2011 Cornell University

"Priests and clerks may be seen wearing masks and monstrous visages at the hours of office. They dance in the choir dressed as women, panders or minstrels. They sing wanton songs. They eat black puddings at the horn of the altar [cornu altaris justa] while the celebrant is saying mass. They play at dice there. They cense with stinking smoke from the soles of old shoes. They run and leap through the church, without a blush at their own shame. Finally they drive about the town and its theatres in shabby traps and carts; and rouse the laughter of their fellows and the bystanders in infamous performances, with indecent gestures and verses scurrilous and unchaste" "PL 207:1171; translation from Chambers, 1:294."

"Day 10: Twelfth Night Cake & King Cake | Why'd You Eat That?" By Esther Martin-Ullrich

"In any case, the tradition of electing a mock king carried over to the Middle Ages in the form of the Twelfth Night King. He was called the **Lord of Misrule**, and presided over all the festivities with his accomplice, the boy bishop. All in attendance were subject to the mock king's "ludicrous fancies." It was a way of celebrating the end of the Christmas season. People masqueraded, danced, cross-dressed, and gambled. By the time Edward II came to reign in 1284-1327, the mock king was being called the King of the Bean because of how he was chosen and the cake was just a way to continue the old custom of mock rulers."

<http://whydyoueatthat.wordpress.com/2011/12/10/day-10-twelfth-night-cake/>

"A Medieval Christmas" by Jane Gilbert

"One example of the heady mix of Christian and pagan is the tradition of the **Lord of Misrule**. This was someone appointed at Christmas to be in charge of Christmas revelries, which often included drunkenness and wild parties in the tradition of Yule. Again, the church had an equivalent, called a boy bishop. This tradition seems to come from ancient Rome, from the feast of Saturnalia. During this time, the ordinary rules of life were turned upside down. Masters served their slaves, and offices of state were held by peasants. The Lord of Misrule presided over all of this and had the power to command anyone to do anything. "

<http://www.timetravel-britain.com/articles/christmas/medieval.shtml>



Feast of Fools & Lord and Lady of Misrule in the Swamp (continued)

Further Reading (con'd)

“Mary Queen of Scots” by Antonia Fraser

“At the Twelfth Night festivities of 1564 Mary Fleming, dressed as **Queen of the Bean** in cloth of silver, her neck, shoulders, and what seemed like the whole of her body set with jewels ...” (available on Google books)

“Twelfth Night or Day Cakes. Was the practice of hiding tokens in Twelfth Night cakes a Victorian invention or was it truly a tradition of the Middle Ages?” by JK Holloway
Tournaments Illuminated Issue 168, Fourth Quarter, 2008.



St. Francis Manuscripts Headed to U.S., in First Trip Out of Italy in **700** Years

The papers of St. Francis will be shown in the United States in New York City and in Brooklyn. The papers will only be shown until mid-January, 2015.

There are several articles in the New York Times:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/10/world/europe/st-francis-manuscripts-bound-for-us-display.html?>

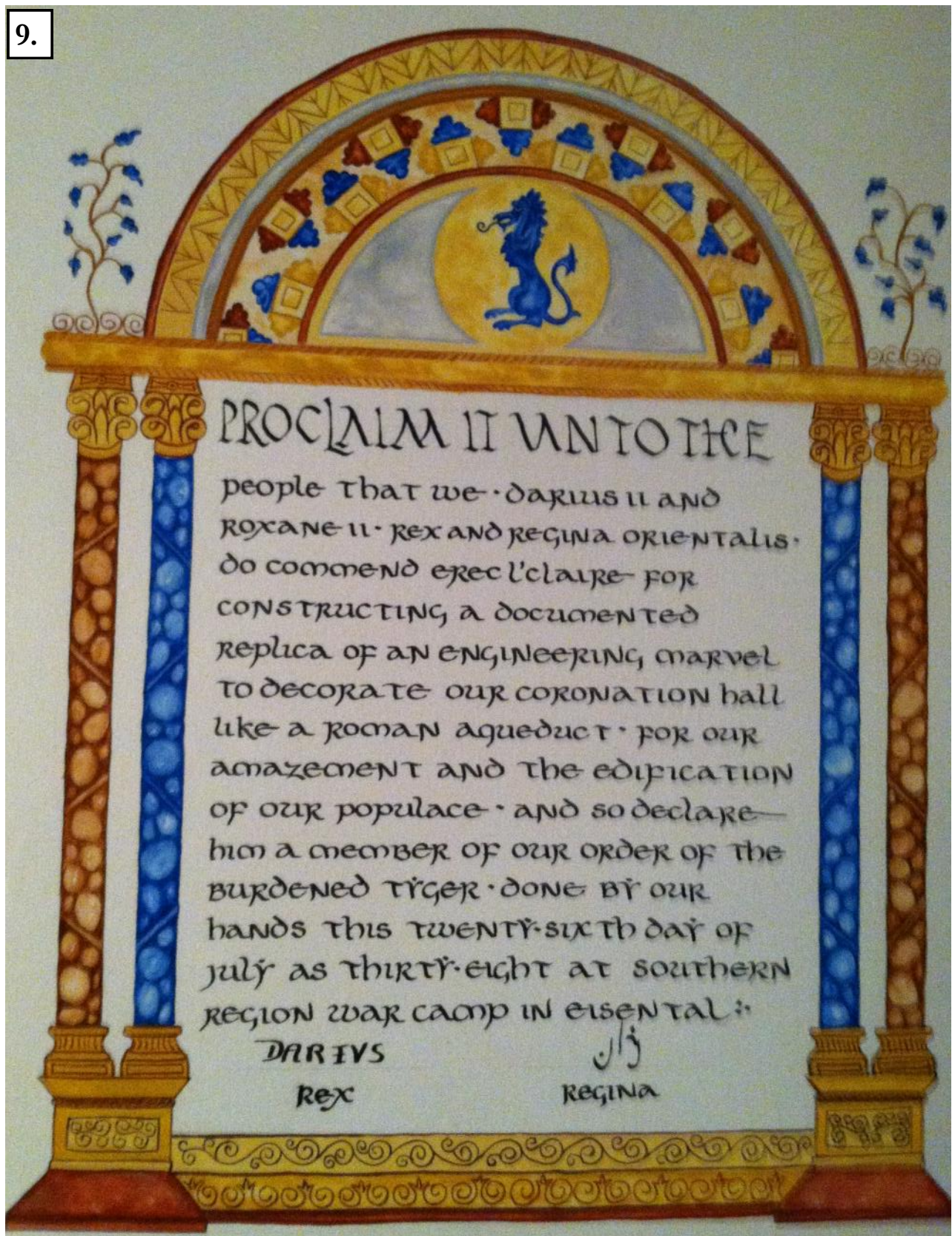
<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/12/nyregion/st-francis-papers-in-brooklyn-a-borough-he-would-appreciate.html?>



Favorite Scroll—Baron Erec's first Burdened Tiger, AS 38

Caligraphy and Illumination by Dresden Pennello di Quadro Voce, op

9.





Favorite Scroll—Baron Erec's second Burdened Tiger, AS 46

Caligraphy and Illumination by Wulfgar Silverbraid
Wordsmith- Theodora Bryennissa, called Treannah

9.





UPON MY CHOPPING BLOCK

12.

- a mad chef's view of the S.C.A. An occasional article by Perote Gormal Campbell

Winter is in full swing, thoughts slip to traditions and

foods that bring us joy and warmth while

winter howls at our door. From latkes to turkey, roast beef with Yorkshire pudding to green bean casserole the holidays are filled with foods that we cook because great great grandmother always said it wasn't Yule without pickled pigs feet in aspic.

We all grew up with that one dish we loved, and one that we knew could crush our holiday spirit. Oh it's all good when the fresh cranberry sauce was rolled out, but at some point someone would break out the Brussels sprouts and all bets were off. Yet we grow, and as we blend traditions some versions fade away and new favorites are found.

Your English side might like a feast of salt crusted beef, a tart of Brussels sprouts au gratin, and a prawn salad to begin the feast. Your German

side might have a roasted pork with spätzle and red cabbage. Your French friends may prefer rack of lamb, haricot verts, and some whipped potato with garlic. Let's not forget great aunt



12.

cabbage braised with apples, and who can turn down whipped potatoes so you have an excuse for even more gravy. Let's pick one dish that you can add to your arsenal; something loathed

by many children but loved by many adults. The noble and easy to prepare **red cabbage.**

Ingredients-

1 medium red cabbage, cored and shredded
1.5 cups veg stock
1/3 cup brown sugar
1/3 cup cider vinegar
4 tbs butter
1/2 tsp black pepper
1 pinch salt

Combine first 6 ingredients in stock pot. Bring to boil and reduce heat, simmer 90 minutes stirring several times
Salt to taste

Tillie who is diabetic, gluten free, and a hard core vegan. So many options, so little space on your plate.

Let's blend the options together and make up a fictitious meal. With a salt crusted beef, we can serve beans with garlic and dill, red

Until next time, keep your work space clean, and your knives sharp.

Perote



Christmas in Wales, reprinted from the Mudpuppy January, 1992



In the CE, this lasts from Christmas (12/25) through Twelfth Night (1/6) but may run as long as Candlemas (2/2). From the symbolic archetypes these festivities represent, I think that this season in the pre-Christian time lasted from Alban Arthan (winter solstice) through Imbok (2/1).

Many of the ancient customs are still followed today, although no one remembers why anymore. Mistletoe, venerated by the Druids, is hung in all the houses; often a piece is left over the mantle 'til the next year, when a new fresh piece is put up, and the old one burned. As it dries, it turns a rich, deep yellow, in keeping with its title of "the golden bough."

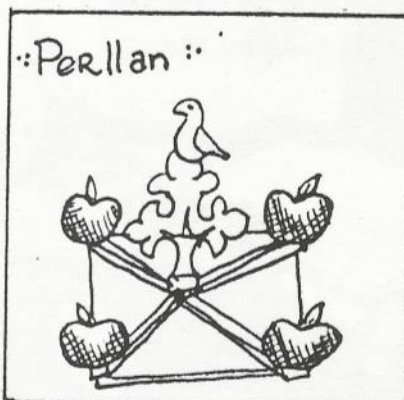
On Christmas, a special carol ceremony, Plygain, takes place; people often stay up all night to be ready for the singing that starts as early as three am, and continues 'til dawn. As many as thirty carols, some twelve or fifteen verses long, are sung a cappella in four part harmony, and the church lit by the candles each person decorates and brings to be burned. Sounds like a solstice ceremony to me!



New Year's Day, Dydd Calan Newydd, ushers in the serious revelry. This is when the gifts are given, and people go "calennig." Carrying calennig, devices made of apples on tripods, decorated with holly & grain (and occasionally even fruit, nuts, or gold leaf), groups visit houses singing good-luck songs (like "Here We Come A-Wassailing") and receive treats, drink, or money from those visited.

Twelfth Night has three main festivities which harken back to ancient ritual. One, two, or all three are done, either at the same time or stretched out til February 1st, depending on local variation and custom.

These are Wassailing, Wren Hunts, and the Mari Lwyd. Aside from the props and costumes, they are all sort of a cross between modern caroling and trick-or-treating.



To Wassail, one member of the group carries a beautifully decorated, ornate (empty) bowl, and one has the Perllan--"orchard" in English. This is a square plate of wood with a wooden compass cross attached flat, with a circle in the middle, on which is a tree with birds. Apples are attached at the four ends. This is a theme very like Avalon, or Blessed Isle, where the Tree of Life stands with Rhiannon's Birds in it. The bowl is like the Grail, or the cauldron of Dagda, ever filling.

Wrens were honored as Rulers of the Birds by the Druids, and feature in much Celtic mythology. A Wren Hunt is organized, and once one is captured (or a sparrow, if a wren is unavailable) it is put in a ti-



ny beribboned cage on a decorated bar, and is carried in a large procession through the town, with various stops to sing the praises of the Noble Bird. I hope they let the poor thing go at the end! This custom is also followed, with variations, in Ireland, Brittany, Southern France, the Isle of Man, and Essex, England.



The most striking of the Twelfth Night festivals is the Mari Lwyd. Starting a year in advance, a horse skull is given glass eyes, black felt ears, and a spring, rigged up so the jaws can be opened and snapped shut. This is now attached to a 5 foot pole, then a white sheet is draped on the back and bottom of the skull using colored ribbons. The maker hides under the Mari Lwyd's sheet making her move and open and close her mouth. Need I point out that the White Mare is the symbol of Epona? The "Leader" has a set of reins with bells attached, which he puts on Mari Lwyd to lead her, and a stick with which to rap on doors. There is also a "Sergeant", a "Merryman" who's usually a fiddler or some kind of musician, and Punch and Judy (shades of Wicker Man!). Anyone else along for the ride (usually young men) wears ribbons and bells.

The Mari Lwyd party would go to a house (or restaurant or tavern-English, "bar") and try to best the landlord in a test of singing, poetry, or jokes. If the Mari Lwyd was stumped, it passed on; if the landlord lost, the whole procession would come in and sing, dance, and "horse around" 'til they were given food and drink. Then they'd push off to the next stop.

It is said that some landlords even today hire poets to keep the Mari Lwyd from entering the door on Twelfth Night or Imbolc (St Brigit's Day).

Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newdd Dda!

merlynia

Special thanks to Karen Muller, "The Christmas Season in Wales," Ninnau, Vol 17, no 2, page 16.

Christmas in Wales, reprinted from the Mudpuppy January, 1992

This article is reprinted from the January, XXVI Mudpuppy (1992). The article was written by Baroness Merlinia (aka Merlynia). The chronicler in 1992 was Lady Ceara.



Ask Milton the Mudpuppy

MiltonMudpuppy (at) gmail.com

13.

Dear Milton:
Everyone keeps talking about **Feast Gear**. Who do I fight with this?

Hagar the Hungry

Oh, Hagar, you don't fight with feast gear, you feast with it!

Like many places in the medieval time period table settings were not always provided by the host - especially those of poorer station. There was no Medieval Sandra Lee with her fancy "tablescapes" on Ye Olde Food Network. Nor was there a Martha Stewart in the Royal house of England who would have spent time doing decorative napkin folding before a party. No, people provided their own table settings. If they didn't they may have used a trencher, or just done without (and likely not eaten!)

You have a lot of options with feast gear. If you are new or are on a budget, yard sales and flea markets are gold mines. A couple of months ago I took the opportunity to look at a few flea markets. I found a box of Silver flatware for around \$10. This included: knives, spoons, forks, and serving utensils - including a pie server. I also found a

number of wooden bowls and plates, as well as ceramic bowls, plates, and goblets. I even found linens for the table. If it is not yard sale season where you are right now, don't fret. My friend,

13.



Sterling Dragon (nice chap, but tends to like his food extra crispy), says a trip to your local "Dollar" store will yield a bunch of items that will pass the **"Looks period from 10 feet away"** guideline. Besides, do you really want to use the pretty glass goblet at the 4 day fighting and camping event, or would you rather use the sturdy clear acrylic goblet (also great for kids)?

There are several purveyors of feast gear around the Kingdom as well. You can find wooden ware, ceramics, glass... and for all areas; from Wales to Japan. 600s to 1650.

So, what does one put into "feast gear"? At the most

basic level you will want flatware, a plate, a bowl, and a cup. Things that would be nice to add include: tablecloth, napkin, serving utensils, flameless candles.

What else can you add? Well, I snooped around into a couple of baskets at my last event (mudpuppies can be sneaky, you know!) and found one basket that had a carving knife and fork, several sharp knives, and a pie server. I even saw one with a marrow spoon and corkscrew!

A few words on candles: Candles are lovely. They can really set the mood at an event. The flickering lights, the soft sighs of the young ladies as they reach across the table. The abject screams of terror as those same ladies light themselves afire by dragging an angel-wing sleeve thru a flame. Make the local Seneschal happy - bring flameless candles. No one wants to call 9-1-1 or do paperwork for a candle incident.

In summation - feast gear can be many things. Talk to others, see what they carry - ask why. And figure out what works for you.

~Milton Mudpuppy



Baronial Tip from Our Baroness and Baron

Attend a few baronial meetings, this will allow you to gain a broader perspective of projects your Barony is involved in. This will help build your knowledge on your local group and show you how to become more involved.

**Baroness Jehannine &
Baron Erec**



Note: The Baronial meetings for the Barony of Settmour Swamp often occur on the second Wednesday of the month at the homes of volunteer officers. The dates are shown on the Barony calendar. <http://settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org/calendar/>

Knight Marshal Tip from Wulfgar

Happy New Year, Warriors!

In order to improve our martial skills, it's important to be exposed to and train with different people when you can. Not just in your regular practice, but in others as well.

Make plans to hit different practices in different Baronies, always try to make regional practices, as well. Don't let the distance to some of these deter you. Get some Housemates, or other fighters together and carpool. The road trip there and back always makes the day better, and more cost effective.

Always ask questions after your fights. What worked and what could be improved upon? Always watch when not in your helmet, see how others fight.

All of this works to your advantage to grow as a fighter for our Barony and our Kingdom.

Yours in Service,

Baron Wulfgar Silfrahaar KM





Fencing Tip from Don Orlando

"I like to Watch"

While daily drilling in footwork and point control are essential for improving as a fencer, it can also be very beneficial to watch and learn. When you are competing in a tournament, while you could have fun socializing, try watching the other bouts instead. You may learn something about an upcoming competitor's style or tricks. Observe how they react when pressed, how they close distance, and what are their preferred attacks. When you study these maneuvers, it helps to prepare your mind so that you're not stunned into inaction when they are used on you. Analyzing other fencers can open your mind to new ways of moving and striking, adding to your bag of tricks. Don't just limit your watching to tournaments, but watch other fencers during practices. I find it useful to analyze the old Pennsic Rapier Champions' bouts on Youtube; after all, why not learn from the best? So don't be just a doer, be a watcher too; it may make you seem like a stalker, but it can also make you a better fencer.

YIS, **Don Orlando Sforza**



As a follow-up to Don Orlando's comment, above, I'd like to remind you that the June, 2014 issue of the Mudpuppy contained a 14 part series by Don Elyas Tigar on watching Rapier. I personally learned a great deal about I fencing by reading Don Elyas's column. Ursula

Everything You Need to Know to Watch Rapier (1 to 14) By Don Elyas Tigar
Reprinted in the Mudpuppy, June, 2014

<http://settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org/mudpuppy/>

Favorite Scrolls

Please submit a high resolution photograph of your favorite scroll for publication in the Mudpuppy. It can be the prettiest, the silliest or just your favorite. See an example of two of **Baron Erec's** favorite scrolls for Burdened Tyger that he received ten years apart., on page **18.**



Mudpuppy 2014 Index <http://settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org/mudpuppy/>

Month	Chronicler	Issue Theme and Special Articles
Jan	Wilhelm	--
Feb	Wilhelm	Southern Region Scriptorium and Heraldic Symposium Thanks January Officer Meeting notes
Mar	transition	--
Apr	Ursula	Court Report from Mudthaw THANKS for MUDTHAW Coronation of Brennan mac Fearghus and Caoilfhionn inghean Fhaolain (planning) Swamp Swap and Schola (planning) QUEST for Wit and Wisdom XXX (planning) High Table Glasses by THL Mathias Feuerdrachen Heraldric Tabard by Lady Vivianne Dunbar Cleaning Earthenware and Stone Pots by Magister Galefridus Peregrinus Embroidered Facing by Lady Vivianne Dunbar The April Fools Issue of the MudGuppy (from the Crypts 1987 to 1990)
May	Ursula	Coronation Thanks QUEST for Wit and Wisdom XXX - New location, Clinton Elks Lodge (photos) Embroidered wolf collar by Lord Thorlaeifr Hvitskegg Ducal Cloaks for Duke Kenric and Duchess Avelina by Baroness Jehannine (embroidery) and Lord Thorlaeifr (beading) Sheep Bone Whistle, Lady Marion Quyn UPON MY CHOPPING BLOCK a mad chef's view of the S.C.A. column begins Vivianne's Embroidered Trim for Baroness Jehannine's Garb Lydia's Hand Woven Trim for Baron Erec's Garb DID YOU KNOW column begins
Jun	Ursula	Swamp Swap and Schola, THANKS ASK MILTON THE MUDPUPPY column begins Heraldric Dress and Caplet by Duchess Kiena Children's Garb, a Mother's Perspective - Wir Coleshulle Everything You Need to Know to Watch Rapier (1 to 14) By Don Elyas Tigar
Jul	Ursula	Pennsic Issue Swamp Tower at Pennsic—Construction Photos QUEST event THANKS (photos) Day in the Solar event THANKS (photos)
Aug	Ursula	35 Anniversary Issue History of the Barony of Settmour Swamp 1979 to 2014
Sep	Ursula	REN FAIRE - 4H Renaissance Faire September 6 to 7 Swamp 35th Anniversary Party at Baron Erec's Home (photos) How to Paste a Picture Behind a Glass Cabochon By Karin Jacobsdotter
Oct	Ursula	AWARDS for SWAMPIES - King Brennan and Queen Caoilfhionn Recognized Members of Settmour Swamp How to set a Cabochon using a Bezel By Karin Jacobsdotter
Nov	Ursula	Arts & Sciences Using a Pattern to Tailor a Cotehardie by Lady Vivian FAVORITE SCROLLS column begins
Dec	Ursula	Preparation for the Masked Ball January 10 Olive Recipes as taught by Master Galefridus



The Officers Of Settmour Swamp

Baron	Baron Erec L'Claire baron@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org (908) 268-0725 (before 9pm)	Invested March 2013 Expires March 2017
Baroness	Baroness Jehannine de Flandres baroness@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org (908) 319-0765	Invested March 2013 Expires March 2017
Seneschale	Lady Charis Accipiter charisacci@comcast.net (908) 850-8690 (No calls after 9pm)	Elected June 2014 Expires June 2016
Sinking Tower Pursivant	Lord Orlando Sforza herald@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Elected October 2013 Expires October 2015
Knight Marshal	Baron Wulfar Silfrahaar (Silverbraid) marshal@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Elected January 2014 Expires January 2016
Exchequer	Lord Miles Boweman exchequer@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Elected October 2014 Expires October 2016
Chronicler	Baroness Ursula of North Woods chronicler@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Elected March 2014 Expires March 2016
Chirurgeon	Lord Miles Boweman chirurgeon@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Elected March 2013 Expires March 2015
Web Minister	Lord Dalek Bolotnikov webmaster@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Renewed December 2014 Expires December 2016
Mistress of A&S	Mistress Caterina Giaocchini mas@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Renewed December 2014 Expires December 2016
Mistress of The Lists (MoL)	Lady Ceara MacKieran mol@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Elected March 2013 Expires March 2015
Chatelaine	Baron Don Malcolm Bowman chatelaine@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Elected February 2013 Expires February 2015
Marshal of Fence	Lady Jehane de Fenwyk fencing@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Renewed April 2014 Expires March 2016
Captain of Archers	Honorable Lord Thorlaeifr Hvitskegg archery@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org (908) 406-0143 (No calls after 9pm)	Renewed November 2014 Expires November 2016
Chamberlain	Baroness Rhiannon de Carreg Cennen chamberlain@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Renewed October 2013 Expires October 2015



The Officers Of Settmour Swamp (continued)

Youth Combat	Vacant	Vacant
Chancellors Minor	Vacant	Vacant (organize activities for children and teenagers)
Thrown Weapons	Vacant	Vacant
Canton of Gryphonwald (Middlesex Cty, NJ): Seneschal:	Failenn Finn gryphonwald@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	The Canton of Gryphonwald holds BGI (Black Gryphon Inn)
Canton of Marwick (Union County, NJ): Seneschal	Baron Edmund Patterson	The Canton of Marwick is inactive



**BGI
2012**



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**BGI
2014**



7.



Did You Know:

By Ursula of North Woods

The **East Kingdom Calendar**

<http://www.eastkingdom.org/EventListing.html>

- lists all official **events** and up to date information and registration details.

You can search the SCA publication, Tournaments Illuminated, by topic and by issue.

For example, I used this search tool to identify an article in Tournaments Illuminated dealing with Twelfth Night celebrations, for my article on the Feast of Fools on page 13.

Tournaments Illuminated

Index by Topic

<http://www.sca.org/ti/topic.html>

Tournaments Illuminated - Index of
Featured Articles

<http://www.sca.org/ti/issue.html>

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twelfth night Search

Search Results

About 8 results (0.64 seconds)

Order of the Portable Feast
to be presented, at the Crown Tournaments, Coronation Festivals, and Tournaments Illuminated Celebrations, to that person who there sets forth the best arrayed table for the feast.
www.sca.org/awards/opf.html

West Kingdom Orders and Awards
Jun 23, 2009 ... Archery Champion: This title is granted at the conclusion of the Kingdom Annual Archery Competition.
www.sca.org/awards/west.html

Glossary of SCA Jargon
File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat
Twelfth Night – an event celebrating the holiday of Epiphany (January 6) at the beginning of January; attendees wear their finest garb, and ...
www.sca.org/officers/chatelain/pdf/jargon.pdf

SCA, Inc. | Tournaments Illuminated - Index of Featured Articles
"Maritime Medicine" by Alina Silverthorne; "Twelfth Night or Day Cakes" by Lynn Lewis; "Forging a 12th C. Western European Prick Spur" by Donwenna ...
www.sca.org/ti/issue.html

SCA, Inc. | Tournaments Illuminated - Index by Topic
Twelfth Night or Day Cakes, Johnnae Lynn Lewis, 4th Quarter 2008 (#1162); Medieval Sandwich, Melisande de Frayne, Spring 2007 (#162).
www.sca.org/ti/topic.html

Society for Creative Anachronism **Newcomer's Portal:**

<http://welcome.sca.org/>

A **Newcomer's Guide** to the SCA:

<http://www.sca.org/officers/chatelain/pdf/NewcomersGuidePages-low.pdf>



Combat	Date/Time	Location	Contact	Notes
Fighter Practice	Wednesdays 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm	Nutley, NJ. Franklin Reformed Church, 45 Hillside Crescent Nutley, NJ 07110	Wulfar Silfrahaar marshal@settmourswamp.eas tkingdom.org	Other fight practices: Fighter Practice group at Yahoo!Groups; suggested Donation \$5
Fighter Practice	Tuesday evenings 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm	Glen Gardner Youth Center 16 Hampton Rd Glen Gardner, NJ, 08826	Wulfar Silfrahaar marshal@settmourswamp.eas tkingdom.org	Also fencing and Arts& Science; suggested Donation \$7
Fencing Practice	Thursdays, 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm	Springfield, NJ Fencing Sport Center 4 Commerce Street Springfield, NJ 07081	Owynn Greenwood owynn.greenwood@gmail.com 908-447-2979	suggested Donation \$5
Fencing Practice	Tuesday evenings 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm	Glen Gardner Youth Center 16 Hampton Rd Glen Gardner, NJ 08826		Also heavy fighting and Arts& Science; suggested Donation \$7
Archery Practice	Sundays 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Milford, NJ 310 Milford-Warren Glen Rd. (Rt. 519), Milford, NJ 08848 (908) 995-4417	Jehannine de Flandres baroness@settmourswamp.ea stkingdom.org Phillip the Facetious	
Archery Practice is currently suspended and will resume next spring				
Thrown Weapons Practice	Sundays 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Milford, NJ 310 Milford-Warren Glen Rd. (Rt. 519), Milford, NJ 08848 (908) 995-4417	Jehannine de Flandres baroness@settmourswamp.ea stkingdom.org Phillip the Facetious	Please email for directions.
Thrown Weapons Practice	First and Third Tuesdays of every month	Maplewood, NJ	James of York (contact via Merlinia) merliniajws@gmail.com (973) 762-2554	Please email for directions.



Art	Date/ Time	Location	Contact	Notes
Swamp Cats	Evenings TBD	Announced on the Yahoo email list	Rhiannon De Carreg Cennen chamberlain@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Occasional Meetings to Share Art Projects
Dancing	Evenings 7:45 to 8pm	Glen Gardner , NJ (same location as fencing)	Ursula of North Woods chronicler@settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org	Every other week for 15 minutes—one dance taught each week NEW
Archery Practice	Wednesday evenings May through October	Pittstown, NJ	Elizabeth Hawkwood hawkwoode@gmail.com	Occasional Practices Please email for directions.

An electronic listing of **activities and events** is available on the Barony website:

<http://settmourswamp.eastkingdom.org/events.html>

Courtesy copies are sent to:

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Publication release forms:

<http://www.sca.org/docs/library.html>
<http://www.sca.org/docs/pdf/ReleaseFormsFAQsPRINT.pdf>

Links:

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[Settmour Swamp On Facebook](#)
[Settmour Rapier On Facebook](#)
[Canton of Gryphonwald](#)
[East Kingdom Website](#)
[SCA Membership](#)



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15.	Photo of Embroidery , used with permission, Thorlaeifr Hvitskegg



At Ghosts Ghouls and Goblins in Carillion (November , 2014) Baroness Merlinia, OL, took Lord Mithgiladan the Herald as her apprentice.



Embroidery Project (in progress) by Thorlaeifr



1.

Local newsletter polices for the East Kingdom of the Society for Creative Anachronism. This includes obtaining releases from contributors for the inclusion of their works and contact information.

[EK Local Chronicler Policies](#)

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