

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.

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Greetings from your Seneschal!



Greetings Keepers

We are quickly approaching our next event, which is the Haire Affaire of the Heart on March 28. Everything is coming together, but we are still looking for volunteers in some areas. If you are interested in volunteering or have some suggestions please e-mail the autocrat, ladyemelyebroys@gmail.com. At the end of February Arianna Da Lucca will be taking over as seneschal. I know she will do a great job. It's been challenging and fun to take on the role as seneschal. Thank you for your help and support.

See you all at the next moot,

Mary of Falcon's Keep

Cover Art

February from the Les Tres Riches Heures du Duc de Berry. This winter scene shows many details of life in 15th century France. Note the lady of the manor raises her skirts only slightly as she warms herself in front of the fire, but the peasants behind her are not so modest. The scene also shows the wattle fence and details of animal husbandry.

The Chronicler's Quill



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

Already it is February and Hare Affaire is approaching too fast. We will be ready, but it would really help if we can improve our communications. I have had to delay this Mewsletter witing for material and I still do not have some vital items such as contact information for some of the officers, The same information is lacking on the website. The minutes of the last moot contain several gaps where officers were absent and sent no report. It is REALLY important for all officers to attend the moots or at least send a deputy or a report.

It is also really important for everyone, especially officers, to fill out and sign the permission to publish your identifying information,. Many did so at the last moot, but if you did not, please do so as soon as possible. If you are an officer, autocrat an event or host a moot it is essential that people be able to reach you. New officers, if your information is missing or incomplete on the officer's page it is because I do not have the right information. I apogize and will correct it as soon as you send me the information.

As always I need more artwork and articles for the Mewsletter. Also if you do a regular column, I really appreciate your work and don't want to complain, but please try to be on time as I can't be on schedule unless you are.

Last, but not least, I am seeking a deputy. I have been chronicler for two years now. My mundane job is getting busier with the departure of my colleague, and I would love to have someone to train so that I can eventually "retire". If you are interested please let me know.

YIS
Ealasaïd

Anachronists Book Review:

Lady Eve of Lynn

The second book in my November History Book Club order was a biography of *Henry VIII*; this was also by Alison Weir.

Having in the past checked in on the 16th century, with the help of the magic box, I decided to check into it once more.

I found Weir's work to be outstanding. Her scholarship cannot be beat. For instance to quote a passage "Henry VIII did not write Green sleeves, which is probably Elizabethan in origin and is based on a Italian style of composition that did not reach England until after his death." This passage caught my attention because earlier in the day, I had listened to a program on NPR that pertained to Henry VIII musicale abilities, the guest lecturer pointed to *Greensleeves* as a measure of the enduring quality of his work. According to Weir "Most of Henry's music was written for the church and has since been lost." There is a great deal of the book devoted to descriptions of the Tudor court and the nobility.

The book includes an extensive bibliography and over 100 pages of notes and references. The notes did not interfere with the text but I found myself referring to them more than occasionally. For instance "Cotton was not known in England until the late 16th century", despite many a romance writers' use of cotton at an earlier time.

I really do enjoy checking up on an author's knowledge. I did the same thing many years ago after watching *Henry VIII and Elisabeth I* on Masterpiece Theater. That was quit some time ago. The late 60's early 70's If I remember rightly. That is when I developed my taste for non fiction.



Ask Alex

The theme of this year's Haire Affaire is 'An Affaire of the Heart'. I have heard the term 'Courtly Love', what is 'Courtly Love'?

'Courtly Love is a term that was created in the late 1800's. It was used to describe a set of ideals and conduct of love relationships. These ideals were active for only about one hundred years starting in the mid 12th century, and were made popular by writers, mainly poets.



There were several sets of rules for courtly love, since most authors had their own vision. The most popular was instituted by Duchess Eleanor of Aquitaine, her daughter and her granddaughter. The book *The Art of Honest Love* instructed a young man in the correct behavior of a lover in wooing, winning, keeping and/or rejecting a lady. Much of the work involves dialogues on the correct behavior for lovers and the rewards and penalties involved in following or transgressing that behavior.

Since, at the time, marriage had little to do with love, courtly love was thought of as a way for nobles to express the love not found in their marriage. 'Lovers' in the context of courtly love did not refer to sex, but rather the act of emotional loving. These 'lovers' had short trysts in secret which escalated mentally, but never physically. Courtly love saw a woman as a spiritual and moral force. The lover accepts the independence of his mistress and tries to make himself worthy of her by acting bravely and honorably, and by doing whatever deeds she might desire. Some of the tenets of courtly love are:

- Love for love's sake
- Exaltation of the beloved lady
- The ennobling power of love
- Love as a desire never to be fulfilled

It was usually one of the assumptions of courtly love that the lady

in question was married, thus establishing the triangular pattern of lover-lady-jealous husband. This meant that the affair was at least potentially adulterous, and had to be conducted in an atmosphere of secrecy and danger. The absolute discretion of the lover was therefore indispensable if the honor of the lady were to be preserved.

There are no historical records that offer evidence that courtly love was actually practiced. It may have been only a literary device, but it did provide a more refined language to describe love, and might have augmented the social role of women when it came to courtship and marriage.

A Tall Tale of the Pernsteiners

There is a story told of the beginnings of the wealth of the Great and Noble Family of Pernstějna, from the Czech area. It is considered to be a tall tale, similar to our Paul Bunyon stories. I have taken a translation of this story from *Pernsteiners in America*.

Vojtech and the Buffalo

Vojtech farmed in a mountain valley called Pardubice. He was plagued by a buffalo who often came into his fields and ate his crops. He puzzled how to kill the buffalo.

One day he looked and saw the buffalo directly in front of him. Instead of killing the buffalo he grabbed it by the nose. He put a ring in the buffalo's nose and led it three miles to the city of Brno, where the king had his court.

The king was impressed with the power of this man who could subdue a wild buffalo and as a reward granted him one wish. Vojtech replied, "I would like to have the freedom to make charcoal from wood in these mountains without hindrance." The king agreed and granted him and his descendants forever the rights to chop wood to make charcoal. To symbolize this right the king awarded Vojtech and his family the right to have for their family crest a black head of a buffalo on a gold field.

In the twelfth century, Vojtech's descendants built a castle named Zuberstein, literally "Buffalo Stone". Unfortunately the castle is now in ruins, but marble stones telling the Vojtech story remain, and are on display at the Pernstein castle, which was also built around that time.

Submitted by
THL Anna z Pernstějna

Minutes 1-04-09

1. Review items from last meeting.
2. Officer reports
 - a. Seneschal
 1. Next moot is Feb. 8th, 2009
 2. March 21st or 22nd for the Haire Affaire work moot.
 - b. Chateline
 1. Evercon demo on Sat Jan. 10th 8am-6pm
 2. Looking for deputy/replacement.
 - c. Exchequer -absent
 - d. Chronicler
 1. Mistress Ealasiad will be purchasing the software for the newsletter.
 2. Looking for a deputy/replacement
 - e. Web Minister -absent
 - f. Knights Marshall
 1. Justinian is looking to purchase better loaner armour for the heavy fighters.
 2. Justinian is the new Knights Marshall.
 - g. Rapier Marshall
 1. Practice starts again on the 26th of January in the Laird room.
 2. Vincent is looking for people willing to help at the Evercon Demo.
 3. Vincent will be taking an inventory of the fencing equipment in January.
 - h. Archery Marshall -absent
 - i. Minister of Arts and Sciences
 1. The Gate involvement fair will be January 29th, 2009. Please contact Natalia at the gate if you are interested in helping.
 3. The cost for the Lions Club site is approximately \$2000. Mary will be looking into some additional questions about the site. We are also still meeting with the parks department about the North Wood County Parks site as well.
 4. We have site tokens for the Haire Affair. Emelye is still looking for people to fill volunteer positions for the event.

See you at the next moot!

Mary of Falcon's Keep

CALENDAR**February 2009**

- 6-8 That Moot Thingy [Coil Stormeill-Tomah WI]
- 7 Herzkreig [Svaty Sebesta-Vermillion SD]
- 14-15 Un Fete d'Amor [Midewinde- Minot ND]
- 14 Tournament of Chivalry [Windhaven-Fond du Lac, WI]
- 21 Lupercalia [Rivenwood Tower-Nicollet, MN]

March 2009

- 15-22 Gulf Wars
- 28 Ides of March [Trewint- Huron SD]
- 28 A Haire Affaire of the Heart [Falcon's Keep-Wausau WI]

April 2009

- 4 Spring Coronation [Jararvellir]
- 18 Provost Challenge [Coldedernhale-Pierre SD]
- 25 Western Regional Melee Practice[Dreibruken-Lincoln ND]

May 2009

- 9 Spring Crown
- 16 Beltaine by the Bay [Darkstone-Ashland WI]
- 14-17 Quest for Camelot [Schattentor-Nemo SD]
- 22-24 Midsummer in the Highlands
[Trewint-Wessington Springs, SD]
- 29-31 Mermaids [Turm an dem See-Valders WI]

June 2009

- 6 Silks Needles and More [Korsvag-Fargo ND]
- 12-14 Border Skirmish [Caer Anterth]
- 25-28 Moorish tavern [Midewinde-Borrineau ND]

July 2009

- 9-12 Warriors and Warlords [Nordskogen-Boscobel WI]
- 23-26 Rabid Yale Hunt [Coldedernhale-White River SD]
- 24-Aug 9 Pennsic War [Aethelmearc]

Fighting/Rapier practice is held on Monday Evenings at 7pm UWSP. It restarted on Jan 26 in the Laird Room after winter break, but the room may be changing. Please check with Vincent.

February Moot

Sunday February 8, 1 pm

At the home of Arianna and Rogan

551 13th St S, Wisconsin Rapids

715-421-2331

From Marshfield, take hwy 10 to hwy 34...head into Rapids...continue on the Riverview Expressway...go over the bridge and on the third stoplight (Eighth St.) turn left. Turn right at the next stoplight (Chestnut St.) Go down to 13th Street and turn left. The house will be halfway down the block on the right. It's BLUE you can't miss it. Address is 551 13th St. So.

From Wausau/Steven's Pt, take 51 south to Plover exit (hwy B) Turn right off the exit and continue going straight onto Hwy 54. Follow 54 into Rapids, turn right on Chestnut. (It is the first right after the stoplight) Go down to 13th St. and turn right. The house will be halfway down the block on the right. It's BLUE you can't miss it. Address is 551 13th St. So.

Web pages of interest:

www.sca.org

www.northshield.org

www.falconskeep.org

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

Officers of Falcon's Keep

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Marshall of Archery: Lady Margarite Chanson

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