

# The Newsletter

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**St Catherine of Alexandria attributed to Garofalo (1515-1530)**  
**Photo from the National Gallery UK**

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

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## Disclaimer

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Submissions are accepted until the 15th of the previous month, preferably as a Word document inserted into an email. Send to both the Chronicler and Deputy Chronicler. The last Thursday of the previous month is the mailing date. Submissions are the property of the contributor and may not be used without permission of the author or artist. Contact the Chronicler for further information.

The Mewsletter is published monthly. It is available from Elspeth Christianson, C3808 Heartland Hills Rd, Stratford WI 54484. As of January this publication will be available on the Falcon's Keep webpage at [www.falconskeep.org](http://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.

## Greetings from the Seneschal



We have decided (since mundane life took over all this month) that we will leave the Poorman's stuff in our trailer for the winter and the Haire Affaire stuff in the storage shed and in the spring after Haire Affaire we will move everything over to the new storage shed. We kind of ran out of Summer before we got everything done. :) Mary will be talking to the people at Marathon Park about booking Haire Affaire. Tentative date is March 6 providing the site has nothing else booked. Our next sewing/giggle night will be November 18th around 6pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to giggle with your fellow SCAdians and help each other with your latest projects! Depending on the weather, Rogan will fire up the forge as well. The address is 4321 80th St. So. 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. Hope to see you then!!!

Arianna

### Cover Story:

St Catherine of Alexandria, whose day is celebrated November 25, was one of the most favored saints in the middle ages. This presumably contributed to the popularity of the name Catherine which has persisted to this day. Allegedly Catherine was a virgin martyr, who was born into a privileged family in late 3rd C Alexandria and converted to Christianity after she had a vision. She opposed the persecutions of Emperor Maximus. After her learned discourse converted many pagan philosophers and also Maximus' own wife, Catherine was condemned to death on a wheel of torture which broke when she touched it so she was eventually beheaded. Details of her life are scanty and she is considered apocrophal by some modern Catholics.

The image (from the national Gallery in the UK) was painted in the early 16th C. Note the style of her garb.

## *The Chronicler's Quill*

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



It is really exciting that new types of gatherings are starting to happen in the Keep! As mentioned in the letter from the Seneschal, Arianna and Rogan are hosting an approximately monthly sewing giggle night, scheduled for November 18. Jen is hosting a diverse A&S gathering at her home as well. It is at 7pm every other Wednesday including Oct 28, Nov 11, (skip Thanksgiving week), December 9, (skip Christmas week). Jen's address is 508 E 6th in Marshfield.

Now that A&S is coming alive in the Keep, there should be more material for the Mewsletter. If you are bored with the same old articles, please note that **YOU CAN BE AN AUTHOR**. If you went to an event others may have missed, or tried a new project in A&S why not write it up for the Mewsletter? The same goes for artwork—if you draw anything with a medieval theme, I would love to have it for the Mewsletter.

New regulations do require that I treat all contributors as serious artists who wish to protect their work, so you will need to sign a release for me to publish anything you submit. The form is on the website below:

<http://northshield.org/Officers/Display.aspx?ID=3>

Look under forms, permission to publish.

If you notice any discrepancies in the minutes, please let me or Mary know. They have been reconstructed after they were lost due to Mary having major computer problems. Many thanks to Mary for her heroic job in getting the minutes to me at all.

YIS  
Ealasaid

## Anachronists Book Review:

### Lady Eve of Lynn

Guess What? I finally found a new work of fiction that pertains to our time period. Other than the Historical Romances there has been very little hitting the New Bookshelf this year.

This months offering was found in the large Print section of my local library *Martyr* is an Elizabethan Thriller by Rory Clements. This is his first novel. It is the first in a planned series featuring John Shakespeare. Did the bard have an older brother? I will have to look that up. A very good read.

I was a little confused by the term pursuivants: being used to describe a group of mercenaries. I had to look the word up in my extra large dictionary, In order to find that it was in the third meaning of the word listed, "Officers of the court with power to execute warrants of search and arrest". I guess that you're never too old to learn or is it that elder moments are kicking in a little more often.

Anther word used in *Martyr* that has many meanings is Mews. In my dictionary (The one that I need a magnifying glass to read, and a crane to lift. ) The meanings are, 1 A cage for Hawks, 2 a place of concealment, 3 A stable yard, 4 an alleyway leading to a stable or garage. When I see this word, I wonder just what our first Muse of the Mewsletter had in mind when she chose the name for our shires newsletter. A lining for a bird cage maybe!!

Or was it meant to lead us to Think as well as live the Dream.



## Becoming your persona...

I had told countless mundanes, “No it is not a costume, it’s my garb”, before I really began to understand what that means. If I chose to dress up as Elizabeth I, I would only try to **look** like the famed Virgin Queen, but when I don Ealasaid’s garb, my goal is to **become** Ealasaid, a 10th century Scotswoman married to a Norseman. To do this, I need to learn as much as I can about what things she had available to her and what she did with them. What fabrics did she have and how did she cut the fabric? If I really want to be Ealasaid, I don’t try to figure out how I can hide mundane longjohns under my dress on a cold day nor do I want to wear a Kinsale cloak (they may be period in the sense of SCA time but they come from Ireland at a time centuries after Ealasaid). Instead I want to figure out what Ealasaid would have done to keep warm—multiple layers?, a Scots style plaid?, a Norse square cloak? If I run out of food at a camping event, even in the mundane grocery store, I try to find things Ealasaid would recognize such a bread, apples, cheese, and grain for porridge. If I’m thinking of learning something new, I might try spinning or soapstone carving rather than bobbin lace or oil painting. The latter are period for some personnas, but not right for Ealasaid. One does not do this all at once. A great thing about the SCA is that you can try out different times and places before settling upon a persona. You do not have to be perfect. You can hide your wristwatch under your sleeve, but if you do try getting rid of it and relying on the heralds or the angle of the sun to let you know when it is time for dinner, you will begin to feel more like your persona. OK, I admit I still cheat in some ways. I have no choice but to drive to get to events and even when there, I am not ready to completely give up cold diet coke, toothbrushes or showers, but every time I try something like drinking warm ale, cleaning my teeth with a twig, or bathing in a stream for that instant I can become Ealasaid. I try to do a few more things like that every year. I challenge you to do the same.

**Ealasaid**

**Minutes 10/18/09**

Seneschal- We are planning to stay where we are right now for the storage shed. In April we will move into the new storage shed during the April moot. Haire Affaire wil tenetively be on March 6th or Feb 20th. The theme we talked about will be a historical Haire Affaire.

Pursuivant - Not present Our next moot will be to help people register their names and devices

Exchequer - Storage has been paid for the next six months.

Knights Marshall - Practice area has become an issue. The gate is trying to resolve this issue.

Marshall of Fence - The new list fields are under construction. We have quite a few loaner gear kits for new comers. Vincent will be ordering supplies this month.

MOAS - Not present (Congratulations on your wedding!)

Chronicler- Articles are due. If you have any additional items you want to include in the mewsletter (event reports, a&s project, ect.), please contact Mistress Ealasaïd.

Chatelaine-- Daïshu Con will be November 20-21st. Please contact the gate at KathleenGallagher@yahoo.com if you are interested in participating. Grimr will be at our next moot to help register devices and names.

Web Minister- Not present

Additional- Gate will be working on garb this month.

Until next time.....

Mary of Falcon's Keep

# Members in the Candle Light

By: Marie Dudely

**SCA Name:** Mistress Ealasaid NicPhearsoninn

**Modern Name:** Elspeth McPherson Christianson

**Years in SCA:** 35 years

**Awards Earned:** Order of the Laurel, Order of the Pelican, Purple Fret (from Mid Realm), Order of Willow (from Mid Realm), Award of Arms.

**Offices Held:** In Falcon's Keep: Chronicler, M.O.A.S; Mid Realm: Chronicler and Chirurgeon.

**Fighting/A&S Preference:** She likes Viking fiber arts, garb making, and period cooking.

**How you found out about the SCA:** She wanted to meet people outside of her medical field job. Elspeth then decided to join a renaissance dance class and to go to the demo to see how the dances looked in garb. She made some friends in the class, Liam and Deirdre, Baron and Baroness of Madrone (Seattle), who convinced her that she really could make her first garb in just a couple of weeks in time for the Feast of St Bunstable. In the end, Elspeth failed in her attempt to meet people outside of medicine as Liam and Deirdre were both in medical fields as well, but she found something much better, the SCA.

**What you like about the SCA:** Mistress Ealasaid likes the chance to experience what it would be like to be in another time and place.



## CALENDAR

### November 2009

- 7 Kingdom SUN [Jararvellir-Madison, WI]
- 7 Rhythm and Bruise [Korsvag-Moorhead MN]
- 14 Tournamernt of Chivalry [Coeur Stormeil-Tomah WI]

### December 2009

- 5 Boars Head [Caer Anterth-West Bend WI]

### January 2010

- 9 Much Ado about 12th Night [Nordskogen-Columbia Hghts MN]
- 23 It's Only a Flesh Wound [Jararvellir-Jefferson WI]
- 30 12th Night 1192 [Castel Rouge-Winnipeg]

### February 2010

- 13-14 Une Fete d'Amour [Midewinde-Minot ND]
- 20 Fighter School [Jararvellir-Jefferson WI]
- 20 Hertzkreig [Syaty Sebesta-Vermillion SD]
- 27 Bardic Madness [Windhave-DePere WI]
- 27 Lupercalia [Rivenwood Tower-Nicollet MN]

### March 2010

- 14-21 Gulf Wars

### April 2010

- 10 Spring Coronation [OPEN FOR BIDS]
- 17 Provost Challenge [Coldedernhale-Pierre SD]
- 24 Armored combat Event [Nordskogen-St Paul MN]
- 24 Feast of Fools [Korsvag-Fargo ND]

### May 2010

- 8 Spring Crown Tournament {OPEN FOR BIDS}
- 13-15 Quest for Camelot [Schattentor-Nemo SD]
- 15 Beltaine by the Bay [Darkstone-Mason WI]

### June 2010

- 4-6 Mermaids Attacks [Turm am See-Valders WI]

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

**November Moot**  
**Sunday November 8, 1 pm**

At the home of  
Lord Vincent Palmer  
630 Kickbush, Wausau, WI

**Heraldry Workshop**

**Grimr can help you start to register your device**

From the Highway:

Take the 192 exit towards Wausau. Start driving to the mall. The intersection just before the mall you'll take the right that curves around the mall. Follow this straight into the intersection that crosses Grand avenue. When you go through the intersection the Gas station will be on your left and Olson Tire will be on your right, you'll be on Forest St. At the next intersection take a right, then take another right then you'll be on Kickbusch. The house will be on the right and the address is 630 Kickbusch.

If you come from Schofield. You'll take Grand Avenue into Wausau. St. Mary's Church will be on your right and its second street to your right is Kickbusch. The house will be on the left of the street

**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: Arianna da Lucca (MKA Dona Panter)  
 551 13th St So Wisc. Rapids WI 54494  
 715-421-2331 arianna\_rogan@yahoo.com

Deputy Seneschal: vacant

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 Asli McCaran (MKA Mary Alnes)  
 3511 Airport Ave, Wisc Rapids WI 54494  
 715-323-1684 mjalnes@yahoo.com

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: Lord Vincent Palmer (MKA Conan James)  
 630 Kickbush, Wausau WI  
 715-693-7369 nomed72@charter.net

Marshall of Archery: vacant

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

Deputy Minister of Arts & Sciences: Damona and Averi

Minister of Youth: vacant

Chronicler:  
 Mistress Ealasaid nic Phearsoinn (MKA Elspeth Christianson)  
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Deputy Chronicler: Bart

Chatelaine: Marie Dudely  
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 715-387-4203 azeidler03@yahoo.com

Deputy Chatelaines:

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

Deputy Web Minister: vacant

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