

# The Mewsletter

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The Mewsletter  
Bart Forman  
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Marshfield WI 54449



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

August 2010

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*Officers of Falcon's Keep*

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### August, 2010

- Poorman's Pennsic XVIII** Friday August 13-15, 2010  
Shire of Falcon's Keep (Wisconsin Rapids WI)
- St. Radekund's Fair** Friday August 20-22, 2010  
Shire of Rivenwood Tower (Mankato MN)
- Mad Dogs and Englishmen** Friday August 20-22, 2010  
Shire of Border Downs (Beresford, SD)
- Ages of War** Friday August 27-29, 2010  
Shire of Silfren Mere (Preston MN)
- BYOM VIII** Friday August 27-29, 2010  
Shire of Vilku Urvas (Deer River MN)

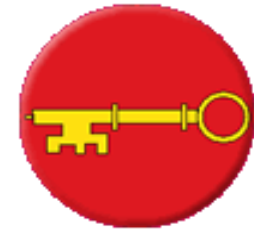
### September, 2010

- Castel Rouge 40th Anniversary Feast and Celebration** Friday September 3-6, 2010  
Barony of Castel Rouge (Gimli MB)
- Autumn Rose** -- **CANCELLED** Friday September 3-5, 2010  
Shire of Rokeclif (Galesville WI)
- Revel in the Vale** Friday September 3-6, 2010  
Shire of Schattentor (Bethlehem SD)
- Fall Coronation** Saturday September 11, 2010  
Shire of Orlova Dolina (Bemidji MN)
- Hrothgar's Hall** Friday September 17-19, 2010  
Shire of Trewint (Cavour SD)
- Regional fighter practice and Moot** Saturday September 18, 2010  
Shire of Inner Sea (Cloquet MN)
- Windhaven's Fall Fest** Friday September 24-26, 2010  
Barony of Windhaven (Oconto WI)

### October, 2010

- Novices, Neophytes & Knaves** Saturday October 2, 2010  
Shire of Turm an dem See (Sheboygan WI)
- Fall Crown Tourney** Saturday October 9, 2010  
Shire of Silfren Mere (Plainview MN)
- The Youth Get a Castle, the Adults Get a Tent!** Friday October 15-17, 2010  
Barony of Caer Antherth Mawr (Kiel WI)
- Middle Kingdom Cooks Collegium** Saturday October 23, 2010  
Kingdom of Middle (Roselle IL)
- Brrr... A Dern Cold Day in Hale Resurrected!** Saturday October 23, 2010  
Shire of Coldedernhale (White River SD)

## Greetings from the Seneschal



Greetings to All!!!

Poorman's is right around the corner! Yay! Tell everybody you know to come on down and check us out that Saturday. It should be lots of fun and lots of work. Many hands make the work load small, so please help where ever you can! We especially need troll help, set up help, and tear down help. These are three areas that generally get handed to a happy few. It'd be really great if those few got a chance to enjoy the event as well. So please, sign up for an hour at troll...police your camping area really well and if you see someone needing help...don't hesitate. :)

We need to start contemplating new areas for Monday night practice indoors. Mind you, these are just back ups in case the university doesn't work out. So just keep that in mind when you go places and please mention it to an officer or at a moot...I will start compiling a list of alternatives. We need 10 foot ceilings and lots of space.

Check out your local rec centers and clubs and churches...do they have anything that will suit our needs?

Til next time :)

Arianna

# The Chronicler's Quill



Saludos hasta el folk  
de la Comarca de la Falcon's Keep  
(Greetings unto the folk of the Shire of Falcon's Keep)

The anticipation is growing steadily as the day nears for Poorman's Pennsic. The worries also grow... Will the weather be good? Will many people attend? Will we be able to do what we set out to do?

While I cannot speak for the first two, I can speak of the last: many hands make for small work. Lending a helping hand will not only make things run more smoothly, it will make the event more fun for everyone. You might just learn something too. Even the "smallest" of tasks might bring future rewards.

Above all, however: have fun yourself! Try something new, or hone an established skill. Get that thing that keeps bringing you back to Merchant's Row; talk to that old friend that finally came out to Poorman's for the first time. All of these things will make this year's Poorman's the best one ...yet.

**Atentamente en el Servicio,**  
(yours in service)  
Pedro de Benavides

## Last Minute Additions to Schedule:

New Class addition: Finger weaving: Swedish Braiding  
Will be taught by Boneddgwys Dwynwen (Lady DVD)

### **August Moot**

Currently, there is no confirmed time or place for the August Moot. When there is any information for the August Moot, it will be posted on [www.falconskeep.org](http://www.falconskeep.org).

### **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)

Facebook Groups:

Falcon's Gate at UWSP

Falcon's Keep Rapier Fighters

Also:

## Poorman's Pennsic Tentative Class Schedule

By **Emelye Ambroys**

Greetings unto the Shire of Falcon's Keep,

Just wanted to fill everyone in on the progress of classes for Poor Man's. Looks like we are going to have a nice line up:

10:00 AM	Making Reed Pens	Jennifer of Falcon's Keep
11:00	Celtic Knotwork	
		THL Alexandra der Wasserman
12:00 PM	Fashion Show	
		Mistress Ealasaid
1:00	Beginning & Intermediate Blacksmithing	
		THL Finn'r Bjornssont
2:00	Beginning Heraldry	Kudrun the Pilgrim

Don Charismos may be teaching, subject yet to be determined. Ysabella De Muerte will be teaching a class in Decorative Chainmail; time TBA. Also, there is a possibility of a theater performance at some point during the day. Details are still being worked out.

This schedule is tentative and subject to change, but it is what I have at the moment. If anyone is interested in teaching a class, please contact me at [ladyemelyeambroys@gmail.com](mailto:ladyemelyeambroys@gmail.com).

Yours in service,

Lady Emelye Ambroys  
Class Coordinator

## Cover Story:

*Sachsenspiegel, showing the German Ostsiedlung.*  
(detail)

*Upper part: the locator (with a special hat) receives the foundation charter from the landlord. The settlers clear the forest and build houses. Lower part: the locator acts as the judge in the village.*

The original source for the picture is the Heidelberg Sachsenspiegel.

The Sachsenspiegel is a compilation of German law translated into Low German @1220 C.E. It was among the first books to be written in German, and the working law in some parts of Germany until 1900.

The Ostsiedlung, literally "settlement in the east", was a period of German expansion to eastern Europe from approximately 1100–1350. The affected area roughly stretched from Slovenia to Estonia, and eastwards into Transylvania. The Black Death stopped the major settlement; however, Germans did continue to move east in smaller numbers for several centuries afterward.

Sources: Wikipedia, "Sachsenspiegel"; "Ostsiedlung"

## IS IT PERIOD?

By Mistress Ealasaid



Plates, Platters, Trenchers and other Feast Gear

Many folk in the SCA take pride in collecting a set of pretty feast gear which usually includes a plate, bowl, cup, knife, fork and spoon. Is this what they really did in the middle ages? Obviously, the answer may depend on the time and place; but there are some generalities for medieval Europe.

While artwork often shows splendidly set tables with many serving dishes, including round, oval and square shapes, and materials ranging from wood to ceramic and metal, there is much less information about place settings for the average person. This is because, until the Renaissance, individual place settings were unusual. Except for the wealthy, most people probably lived on dishes that were slowly cooked over the fire- soups, stews and porridge- which they most likely ate from wooden bowls. They sat wherever they could find space since houses were small, families large, and furniture often insufficient for everyone to have their own chair at a table. This explains why the turner in Viking York was making bowls rather than plates and the wooden dishes from most of medieval Europe are mostly bowls.

Flat loaves of trencher bread are documented, but it is not clear if these were placed on an underlying dish. Only a few wood trenchers have been discovered and these were from the Elizabethan private collections.

The few examples of medieval plates may have been serving dishes. Treatises on manners make it clear that, even in wealthy households, adjacent diners shared dishes (as described in books of etiquette), and cupbearers brought a filled cup, from which the thirsty diner drank before returning it to the cup bearer to be refilled or taken to the next person who signaled the cupbearer.

Inventories of wealthy households in the late middle ages make it clear that serving dishes and spoons were abundant while the numbers of drinking vessels and knives were much less than the number of individuals served. Most recipes call for cutting food up before serving so individual knives were not essential, but may have been brought by individual diners and used not only to cut up larger pieces of food but also to take food from a common platter and/or to carry it to the mouth.

Forks were only used in the kitchen until the Renaissance, when they were introduced in Italy as a novel way to eat without soiling fingers and clothing. By the Elizabethan period ceramics were prominent, and individual places were being set at the table.

The final course was a “banquet” of dessert specialties often served outside in a tent on the lawn using special small plates. There are even recipes for a sotelye in which the plates are made of gum paste painted to resemble ceramic.



Sources for Pictures:

Wikipedia:

*Bayeux-feast02.jpg*. Cooking meat for a feast. Detail from the Bayeux Tapestry. Scanned from Maggie Black's "Den medeltida kokboken", Swedish translation of The Medieval Cookbook.

*Les Très Riches Heures du duc de Berry; Janvier .jpg* (detail) (showing the day of exchanging gifts in January) Miniature by the Limbourg brothers, 1412-1416. Musée Condé, Chantilly