

The *Cascadian*

the newsletter for the Shire of Glenn Linn
Northern Region, East Kingdom
January AS XLII

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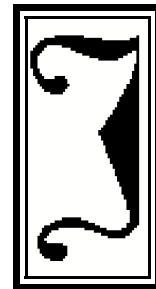
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ractices are held every Wednesday for heavy list fighters. Youth Fighter Practices are held every first and third Wednesday of each month. Loaner gear is available for heavy, youth, and fencing (if interested in rapier combat, please indicate interest ahead of time). There is no pole arm combat until practices return outdoors in the Spring.

Please contact Glenn Linn's Knight Marshal with queries at lbitw1@gmail.com or 222-3762.

Hudson Falls Fire Hall 95 John St. HF, NY
See you there!



January's business meeting was held at the Adirondack Saratoga Region American Red Cross on January 8 at 78 Warren Street. The building is on the corner of Center and Warren Streets, on the left - two blocks down from the traffic circle in Glens Falls. Enter through the gray door on the side of the brick building on Center Street.

Visit the Glenn Linn message board for cancellations or rescheduling
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Glennlinn/>

Business meeting time change to 6:00pm each second Tuesday of the month. There is no meeting in August.

Officers

Seneschal Lady Freygerðr in stórráða Halladóttir “Frigga”

Jennifer Haley, 1 Margaret Drive, Queensbury, NY 12804; 518-792-7923; frigga_of_glenninn@hotmail.com

Herald THL Alethea Eastriding

Allison; ladyalethea@yahoo.com

Exchequer Lady Ratburc Castus

Jennifer Melchert, 78 Qsby Ave, Queensbury, NY 12804; 518-222-3985; jenphalian@gmail.com

Knight Marshal Lord Ketilfastr Thorkilson “Ketil”

Jason Melchert, 78 Queensbury Ave, Queensbury, NY 12804; 518-222-3762; lbitw1@gmail.com

Minister of Arts and Sciences Arnleif the Red

Susan Youngman, Greenwich, NY; redlioncanoe77@verizon.net

Minister of the Lists Lady Ratburc Castus

Jennifer Melchert, 78 Queensbury Ave, Queensbury, NY 12804; 518-222-3985; jenphalian@gmail.com

Web Minister Valdimarr Thorsbane

Ralph Brody, 8 Gregwood Circle, Queensbury, NY 12804; netjunkie518@yahoo.com

Chamberlain Raven MacNeil

Sharlotte Lohret, 23 May Street, Glens Falls, NY 12801; 518-812-9988 cell, 480-4062 home; shar_lohret@yahoo.com

Chatelaine Lady Freygerðr in stórráða Halladóttir “Frigga”

Jennifer Haley, 1 Margaret Drive, Queensbury, NY 12804; 518-792-7923; frigga_of_glenninn@hotmail.com

Marshals-at-Large:

Heavy List - Lord Asgar Rolgson

Dan Haley, 1 Margaret Drive, Queensbury, NY 12804; 518-321-6693; rolgson@hotmail.com

Rapier - Lord Seamus Maguidhir an Rua

Pete Keenan; lordseamus@verizon.net

YFP MiT - Lady Freygerðr in stórráða Halladóttir “Frigga”

Jennifer Haley; 1 Margaret Drive, Queensbury, NY 12804; 518-792-7923; frigga_of_glenninn@hotmail.com

The new officer terms begin January 1, 2008.

*Did new officers send in your letter of intent to take office to your respective regional officer?
Please “cc” the seneschal for a letter of recommendation to be sent as well.
Thank you and GOOD LUCK during the next two years!*

Keeper's of Athena's Thimble

East Kingdom Embroidery Guild

Did you know you anyone can become part of Athena's Thimble? All are welcome at any meeting to learn something new, or to show off your own talents and (not the very least) to meet friends and relax!

For information on the guild and possibilities to participate, please visit: <http://www.athenasthimble.com/>

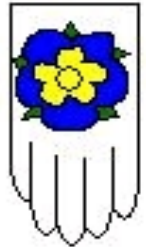
Next meeting at Ruth's on January 13, 2008 in Albany, NY.

Car pooling available. Email Arnleif or Moreta for directions. Bring what projects you are working on. Future dates are: Feb 10 (how to finish a canvas work piece), Mar 16 (reversible cross stitch), Apr 6 (possible field trip to Arlington VT Battenkill Stitchery).



Posted to the Thimble list by HRH Brenwen the Faire: "Their Majesties are currently in dire need of more *Tyger's Cub* badges/medallions. There is only 2 left in inventory. Also, they are very short on *Queen's orders of Courtesy*."

If you are interested *anyone* can try their hand at these, whether it be stitching, painting, beading, however it suits your fancy :) Completed projects can be mailed or given to TRM at an event.



The Gathering of Knitters

Troy, NY Next Meeting: December 30 at 1:00pm All are welcome!

Please come and join us at our monthly gathering of knitters!
(see also the yahoo group: EKKnitters for Guild announcements)

We have had a great time exploring twined knitting, nalbinding, Eleanore of Toledo socks, Pre-literate socks and reliquary bags. Future meetings have been set for:

January 20

February 17

March 30

April 27

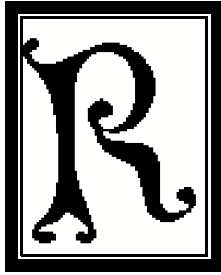
May 25 - at War of Roses

Remember to put them on your calendar! Bring whatever project you're working on! And knit knit knit!!!!

If you have never knit before, we will be happy to teach you!

Many thanks to Irene for hosting our gathering of knitters! The meeting is held at Irene's in Troy, NY at 1:00. For directions or if you have any questions, please email Arnleif: redlioncano77@verizon.net

Happy Knitting!



Recommend someone for an award!

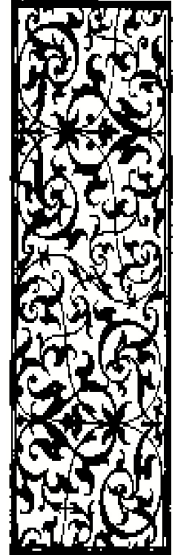
Send to:

TRM Anreas Eisfalke Von Ulm and Gabriella von Ulm
king@eastkingdom.org queen@eastkingdom.org

Or submit a recommendation online through the East Kingdom website <http://government.eastkingdom.org/>

Not sure what kinds of awards there are? Descriptions can be found at <http://www.pbm.com/~lindahlj/jessa/east.html>

Information on how to write up an award recommendation, can be found in the files section on our Glenn Linn yahoo group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Glennlinn/> And click on files



Practices

****Please be aware of changes/cancellations posted.****

Coldwood: Heavy - every other Tuesday at the Salvation Army Plattsburgh, NY

Concordia: Rapier, Heavy - each Monday 6:30pm Park indoor site Schenectady School; Archery - practices are held at Macsen's house or indoors at Rakowana Archery Club; Thrown Weapons - will resume when the weather cooperates; Dance - resumes on January 17, 2008 every Thursday 7 - 9pm, Academy Hall Rm 3500 (Old School 14) located at the corner of 15th street and College Ave, RPI campus, Troy NY

Glenn Linn: Heavy - every Wednesday 6:00pm at the Hudson Falls Fire Hall 95 John St, HF, NY; Fencing - loaner gear is available, but no practices are held unless interest is indicated; Youth - every first and third Wednesday 6:00pm at the Hudson Falls Fire Hall. Contact Knight Marshal Lord Ketil 518-222-3762 or lbitw1@gmail.com

Mountain Freehold: Heavy - each Tuesday 6-8pm, Oakledge Park (Flynn Street) Burlington, right on the lake; indoor site to be determined OR

Warren Practice: On the second and fourth Sundays of the month, from 1 p.m. to whenever, practice takes place at the Warren Elementary School. For information and directions, contact Lord Bertrand at (802) 496-3774 or cb3cats@aol.com.

Johnson Practice: On the other Sundays (first, third, and sometimes the fifth if there is one that month), we fight at Johnson State College. These practices start at noon. For information, contact Lord Tyrvold at (802) 635-7674 or tyrvold@yahoo.com. Directions from the Burlington area: Head up on Route 15 towards Johnson. When you get into the bustling metropolis of Johnson (heh!) turn left at the corner with Ryan Books (red book store) and the Masonic Lodge (HUGE white building) on the corners. You'll go over a wee bridge and pass a red building on the right. Stay straight (go on up the hill), then turn right at "Johnson College Apartments" sign. Stay on this road and veer to the right, you'll be heading towards a parking lot for the gym (SHAPE facility). Park in that lot - they'll be in the gym.

Central Region Practice in Bergental: Heavy - Sunday Jan 20, 1-6pm, Bethesda Lutheran Church on Island Pond Road Springfield, MA (\$2 fee for site) Future dates are set: Feb 10, Mar 16, 2008.

Northern Region Practice: Stonemarche has arbitrarily set a few of their practices as regionals: Heavy - Sunday Jan 10- 5, Center Woods Elementary on Center Road, Weare NH 03281 (\$5 fee for site and dayboard) Future dates are need confirming: Feb 3, Mar 9, Apr 6, 2008. Plans for more regionals possibly in Mt Freehold as well.



Society for Creative Anachronism Mission Statement

In 2005, in pursuit of the goal to professionalize the corporate operations of the SCA, the Board of Directors began the process of creating the necessary mission and business statements to define the Society's scope and purpose as a nonprofit 501.c.3 corporation.

The Alliance for Nonprofit Management lists a mission statement as one of the primary characteristics of a successful nonprofit organization. They site the needs for a clearly defined mission statement, a dynamic and active board of directors, and an organization-wide commitment to set values and goals as vital to success in the nonprofit sector.

To quote the National Endowment for the Arts, "Mission, Business, and Values Statements are the glue which holds an organization together. They describe what you are trying to do, how you want to go about it, and where you are headed. Knowing these things helps keep an organization on track, and provides a yardstick to measure present performance and plans against aspirations and values."

A Mission Statement helps define what an organization wants to achieve. Why does the organization exist? What does it ultimately wish to accomplish? Mission statements must be neither too broad in scope nor too narrow in focus, or they will not successfully represent an organization's purpose.

A Business Statement outlines the framework with which an organization chooses to pursue its mission, provide for its members, and answers the question "How will we work to facilitate the accomplishment of our organizational goals?"

A Values Statement outlines the principles and beliefs held in common by members of the organization, which are used as a guide in the accomplishment of the mission.

To that end, the Board of Directors of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. has created the following three articles and places them before the membership for commentary and input. Commentary should be directed to comments at sca.org, and should be submitted by April 1, 2008.

Mission statement:

The Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA) is an international organization devoted to the research and re-creation of pre-seventeenth century life, encouraging its participants to employ a knowledge of history to enrich their lives and the lives of others through events, demonstrations, and other educational venues.

Business Statement:

As a 501.c.3 corporation the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA) provides the necessary business structure for the operation of its official branches, for the coordination of centralized policies and practices, and for the dissemination of information to its international constituency of participants.

Value statement:

As an organization the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) values the principles of chivalry, honor, personal integrity, and artistry idealized in pre-Seventeenth century culture and society.

Comments are strongly encouraged and can be sent to:
SCA Inc. Box 360789 Milpitas, CA 95036
You may also email: comments@sca.org

Announcements mailing list
<http://lists.sca.org/listinfo/announcements>

Glenn Linn A&S Circle will be held **every fourth Tuesday of each month** at the American Red Cross building:
78 Warren St, downtown Glens Falls - two blocks down on the left from the traffic circle.

All are welcome!

Please bring whatever project you have and enjoy the company and comradery of fellow gentles from Glenn Linn!

Questions to Arnleif the Red
redlioncanoe77@verizon.net

Background check: Policy Change for Adults involved in Youth Activities

As was announced last year, the SCA is implementing a background check policy for the benefit of our membership and the organization.

The background checks will be performed by a properly licensed vendor for all persons in leadership and supervisory roles that may require contact with otherwise unchaperoned minors.

Officials who are required to have background checks include, but are not limited to, youth activities officers at all levels, adults acting as youth marshals for any martial activity, persons organizing/in charge of youth activities for events.

This policy will be implemented on February 15, 2008. The Kingdom Seneschals will be informing those who need to undergo background checks of this requirement. Current officers requiring background checks that are subject to this policy will have 4 weeks to return the appropriate paperwork before their warrants will be revoked.

Any questions concerning the implementation of the policy should be directed to your Kingdom Seneschal.



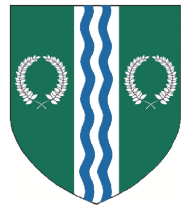
Glenn Linn's Event Calendar

January

- 8 Business Meeting 7:00pm - American Red Cross, 78 Warren St GF, NY
- 22 Arts and Sciences Circle 6:00pm - American Red Cross, 78 Warren St, GF, NY

February

- 12 Business Meeting 6:00pm - American Red Cross, Warren St GF, NY
- 16 Blades and Blarney XI West Glens Falls Fire House, Luzerne Rd Queensbury, NY**see listing on page
- 26 Arts and Sciences Circle 6:00pm - American Red Cross, 78 Warren St, GF, NY



March

- 1 Northern Lights XVII Christ Church United Methodist, Glen St, GF, NY **see listing on page
- 11 Business Meeting 6:00pm - American Red Cross, 78 Warren St, GF, NY
- 25 Arts and Sciences Circle 6:00pm - American Red Cross, 78 Warren St, GF, NY
- 29 Horn Workshop 1:00pm to 5:00pm - American Red Cross, 78 Warren St, GF, NY **see listing in Shire Happenings

Neighboring Events

All are less than a three hour drive from central Glenn Linn (GF, NY) except Birka**

January

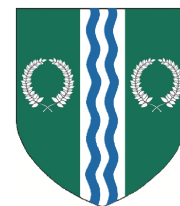
- RP 5 Twelfth Night in Aragon (East Kingdom), Barony of Beyond the Mountain- Newtown, CT
- RP 12 K&Q Fencing Champions, Shire of Panther Vale- White River Junction, VT
- RP 25 - 26 Market Day at Birka, Barony of Stonemarche- Manchester, NH **worth the drive :)

February

- 2 at the sign of the Dancing Fox X Shire of Nordenhalle- Kingston, NY
- 16 Novice Schola and Baronial Birthday Barony of Bergental - Springfield, MA
- 23 Winter War 11 Shire of Northern Outpost - Potsdam, NY
- RP 23 K&Q Bardic Championship Shire of Anglespur - Hoosick Falls, NY

March

- 1 - 2 Bear's Tavern Canton of Northpass - Peekskill, NY
- 8 Hrim Schola XII Shire of Frosted Hills - Millbrook, NY
- 15 Brawl: The Dance of the Three Dons Barony of Concordia of the Snows - Cohoes, NY



Shire Happenings

Arts and Sciences Circle

every fourth Tuesday, American Red Cross building 78 Warren St GF, NY

Look for posts to the Glenn Linn yahoo group for specific scheduled workshops. Interested in teaching? Please contact MoAS Arnleif the Red at redlioncanoe77@verizon.net

Horn Class Learn to finish a horn!

March 29, 2008 1pm to 5pm

American Red Cross 78 Warren St, GF, NY

Valdimarr has generously agreed to teach all interested individuals age 15 and older how to hand carve, scrimshaw and dye a horn. This will be a two day class, whereas the second class date will be determined at the first.

Cost is dependent upon the size of the horn chosen (\$5 and up)

Sign up deadline is March 23, 2008

RSVP to Valdimarr – a *must-do* to get a horn to carve! netjunkie518@yahoo.com

Wine Making Workshop

Four evenings of learning and working created seventeen bottles of Johannesburg Reisling! Although the kit's quick method directions were not followed to a T, apparently confidence, reading and discussion was all that was needed to determine that our wine was on track – we let the natural (non chemical/additive) process clear/finish it. Uncorking of a bottle will be sometime in the month of March! Perhaps we will do it again with the red wine kit this Autumn...

Blades and Blarney XI

February 16, 2008 10am to 7pm

Volunteers for set up, Troll and kitchen are still needed!

Confirmed volunteers are: Rat MoL, Lisa and Allen Kitchen, Asgar children activities

New site! West Glens Falls Fire on 33 Luzerne Road. This brightly lit, window filled site will be a pleasure to occupy for a day of fun, friends, feasting and most importantly fencing! The site's rules/contract dictate and included in the cost of the site that THEY are the ones to clean up and put tables/chairs away :) We will also need to bring our own pots, pans, serving platters, etc. Please look out for a request for kitchenware and kitchen help before and on the day of the event!

EK event listing: *new site*

The Shire of Glenn Linn welcomes another day of friends, food and fencing! Whether the weather be clear, cold or cloudy, indoors always shines with the smiles and laughter of comradery and competition.

Please save the date for Blades and Blarney's eleventh year!

Prizes will be awarded in three categories: Tournament Winner, Best Blarney in the list and Most Chivalrous.

Direct tourney questions to the Fencing Marshal-in-Charge,
Mathgamain O'Brien (mka Brian Kennedy, mathbk@yahoo.com).

Fun activities are planned for youth. A table of games will be available for all ages.

The site is wheelchair accessible.

This hearty day board features wild boar(!) and delicious finger foods, soups and pastries.

Site: West Glens Falls Fire, 33 Luzerne Road Queensbury, NY 12804

Site Opens: 10am

Site Closes: 7pm

Event Fees: Adult: \$12 Child (6 to 14): \$5 Child (5 and under): free
NMS of \$3 for all adults who cannot prove membership.

Autocrat: Frigga Halladottir 518-792-7923 or 518-321-6692
(mka Jen Haley, frigga_of_glennlinn@hotmail.com)

Blades and Blarney XI dayboard menu:

"Bourbelier de Sanglier" (Loin of Boar in Boar's Tail Sauce)

Roasted Turkey with Rosemary

Hard Boiled Eggs

Pickle Spears

Assorted Fresh Fruit

Sourdough and Rye Rolls with Assorted Butter

"Sowpys Dorry" (Onion Soup)

Steak and Mushroom Soup

Assorted Cheese and Nuts

Beef Jerky

Pastries and Pasties (including Mushroom Pasties, more)

Northern Lights XVII

March 1, 2008 Christ Church United Methodist 9am to 8pm

Confirmed Volunteers: Troll - Ratburc Castis, Feastocrats - Allen and Lisa THANK YOU!!

Volunteers will be needed for set up and clean up. This is the Northern Lights Competition XVII. It is a welcome opportunity whilst the winter weather wanes to leave one's warm dwelling, either to compete by displaying the projects one has been working on or to simply observe it all. Whether as an entrant or a leisurely peruser, no one doubts that great talent abounds in the East Kingdom and there are many friends of old and new that are well met on this day.

Please visit the official Northern Lights website for more details on the competition's information including registration forms, deadlines, and rules: <http://scanorthernlights.org/index.html>

EK event listing:

On March first, the Shire of Glenn Linn enthusiastically hosts the Northern Lights Competition. The site is conveniently located in the recently refurbished downtown of Glens Falls, New York.

This is the Northern Lights Competition XVII. It is a welcome opportunity whilst the winter weather wanes to leave one's warm dwelling, either to compete by displaying the projects one has been working on or to simply observe it all.

Whether as an entrant or a leisurely peruser, no one doubts that great talent abounds in the East Kingdom and there are many friends of old and new that are well met on this day.

Early registration will save you money!

Entrance fee includes a hearty, delicious dayboard.

The site is wheelchair accessible.

The site is bone dry. All alcohol related entries must remain in vehicles. There is a location off site nearby where entries will be judged: American Red Cross 78 Warren Street, GF, NY 12801

Please visit the official Northern Lights website for more details on the competition's information including registration forms, deadlines, and rules:

<http://scanorthernlights.org/index.html>

Updated event schedule:

- * 9 am - Competition Registration & Performance time sign-up opens
- * 11 am - Competition Registration (& performance sign-up) closes
- * 11:15 am - Performance Judges gather in performance space for instructions.
- * 11:30 am - Judging begins
- * 11:45 am - non-performance judges gather
- * 12:00 pm - non-performance judging begins
- * 2:00-3:00 pm - Face-to-Face Judging begins, Entrants required to be with their items
- * 4:00 pm - judging closes
- * 6:00 pm - Awards This is not a set time because it depends on how much number crunching there is to be done.

We will be crying the hall for many of these items as we start them.

Site: Christ Church United Methodist, 54 Bay Street Glens Falls, NY 12801

Site Opens: 9:00am Site Closes: 8:00pm

Event Fees include hearty dayboard:

Adult: \$13.00 if postmarked by February 1, 2008; \$15.00 after 2/1/08 and at the door.

Child (6 to 17): \$5.00

Child (5 and under): free

A \$3 non-member surcharge will be collected from any adult who is unable to prove membership.

The site is located a short walking distance to the many restaurants and pubs in the recently restored downtown Glens Falls.

NL XVII dayboard menu:

Wild Boar Stew
Roasted Turkey
Venison Roast
Hard Boiled Eggs
Pickle Spears
Assorted Fresh Fruit
Sourdough and Rye Rolls with Assorted Butter
"Sowpys Dorry" (Onion Soup)
Boar and Mushroom Soup
Assorted Cheese and Nuts
Beef Jerky

NL XVII Autocrat: Lady Freygerdr in stórráda Halladóttir called "Frigga"
Email is preferred: autocrat@scanorthernlights.org
Send reservations to: Frigga mka Jen Haley 1 Margaret Dr, Queensbury, NY 12804
(518) 792-7923 or (518) 321-6692 (10am to 9pm only)

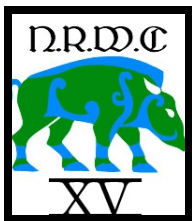
Merchants confirmed as space allows: Witches and Stitches, Diddlelydeets Scents

Important note: Those gentles wishing to **compete in Northern Lights** must submit their registrations to Lord Anders Botman at registration@scanorthernlights.org

****Entrants Contacts:**

Pentathlon Co-Coordinator Lady Rowan deBeauchamp (Jessica Litwin)
111 Country Garden Apartments #9, Troy, NY 12180
(518) 273-6856 (before 9 pm)
pentathlon@scanorthernlights.org

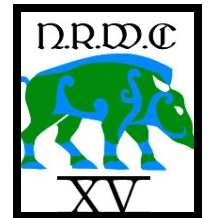
Registration & Research Papers, Reports, Written Prose or Poetry to:
Pentathlon Co-Coordinator Lord Anders Botman (Philip Jacques)
12 Old Center Road South, Dearfield, NH 03037
(603) 463 - 7522 (Before 9 pm.)
registration@scanorthernlights.org



Northern Region War Camp XV

July 3 - 6, 2008

AutoCrat: Lady Ratburc Castus "Rat"
MiC: Lord Ketilfastr Thorkilson "Ketil"
MerchantCrat: Valdimarr Thorsbane



Originally posted to Nordvinland yahoo group 12/21/07 <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nordvinland/>
"Northern Region Rattan Champion Tourney Style"

Thank you all for your great ideas.

So far, this is what I have:

Style of Tourney:

- Double Elimination (Just like a Crown Tournament)
- Warlord (Good experience for single, small group and large group command)
- Round Robin (Everyone gets a shot at everyone else)
- Roman Melee aka Last Man Standing (Not great for deciding the best fighter but it would be over quick)
- Dane Axe Tourney (Regular or Torchlight)
- Atlantian speed style Double Elimination
- Pool style to start. Top 2 from each pool move to Double Elimination.
- Double Elim. Final decided by five weapons forms. Best 3 of 5 to win.
- Pool style with the final decided by a chess tourney.
- Bear Pit
- Randomly decided weapons form.

I will be posting this as a poll in January. Please let me know if I have missed anything. Also, if you know anyone who isn't on this list for whatever reason but would like to have some input, have them contact me directly. My e-mail is lbitw1@gmail.com. Keep the ideas and discussion coming.

Yours in Service
Lord Ketilfastr Thorkilson"

Looking for gentles who are interested in creating one of the many prizes/favors for all of the tournaments that will occur during NRWC XV!

A site token workshop with pewter will occur once the weather warms. Look for a pre-class on carving and molds.

Help will be needed in the days just before the event: to unload the Shire 'Shed' in SGF and bring to the site at the

Warrensburgh Fairgrounds. And again to return the Shire's gear to storage. Please confirm to NRWC XV Autocrat Lady Ratburc jenphalian@gmail.com

Message boards of possible interest:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Glennlinn/>
<http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/3rd-div-na/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nordvinland/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eknorth/>

Web sites of possible interest:

<http://www.eastkingdom.org/index.html>
<http://glennlinn.eastkingdom.org/>
<http://www.eastkingdom.org/artsci/interests.html>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MedievalEncampments/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/medievalawdust/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SCA-Garb/>
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SCACreativeFrugality/>

Gentles of Glenn Linn

Welcome to the newest members of Glenn Linn: Mike, Adam, Gail and Bob. It was a pleasure to meet you at the last pot luck and fight practice! Welcome to the Shire of Glenn Linn!

Valdimarr and Raven had a bouncing baby boy after 23 hours of labor! Congratulations! Ralph III Sunday December 9, 2007 12:05pm 9lbs 1.1 oz. 21 inches long. Welcomed by big brother Drake. And greetings from all of us too, little Valdimarrson!

Thank you Decimus aka Goose for volunteering to participate and taking vacation time for the July Boy Scout Demo!

The third division fighter's food table fund is increasing thanks to the many donations from the potluck dinners, Ketil & Rat's and Asgar & Frigga's and Lisa & Allen's households. Anyone can get involved! Do you have a returnable bottle kicking around on the floor of your car? Or an hour or two available to "man a table," chop some fruit or veggies...? Anyone wishing to donate fairly clean returnable cans and bottles to Frigga, ALL of the funds will be used at events where the Third Division fighters of Glenn Linn attend. Just think: The next event you attend could have food and drink to refresh and strengthen whilst you fight thanks to these donations!

Thank you Valdimarr for offering to teach a class on horn making in March! We're glad you aren't afraid to send some of your trade secrets other's way :)

Thank you Bob and Mike for the donation of barrels to the fighters of Glenn Linn! There are two barrels, one white, one blue, at Asgar and Frigga's residence if anyone is in need...

Pot luck dinners are great fun and all are welcome to them! If anyone would like to host a dinner, feel free to post to the Glenn Linn yahoo group/message board: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Glennlinn/>

From the Chatelaine

Well the New Year has begun. Did anyone make a resolution? Was it to have more fun with friends who share your interests? Or was it to have more fun throughout the year? Well... hehe... *look no further!* (Don't tell me you didn't see it coming!) Here in Glenn Linn are some really wonderful people to get together with for any particular reason Medieval or SCA related!

Feel free to show up at any number of the many activities that occur each month. Monthly A&S activity has returned! There are two events coming up fast in February and March. Weekly fighter practices are held. There are many chances to socialize with others. All are welcome! Please visit the Glenn Linn message board at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Glennlinn/>

Whatever you do, I hope to see you all more and that 2008 is a wonderful year for you!

Yours In Service,

Frigga

History of Birka

by Lady Frigga Halladottir

If one was asked, "What was the first Viking theme event held by the Barony of Stonemarche called?" Perhaps the answer would surprise many. "A Viking's Homecoming" was held in October 1987 (A.S. 22) and was the brainchild of Lord Olaf of Trollheimsfjord, at the time a gentle residing the Barony of Stonemarche. The original idea was to hold an event before Twelfth Night and Yule to allow for shopping for presents. A large event that had plenty of activities for every person at anytime. In order to determine the specifics for such a grand plan, Olaf tried his hand at a brand new event that was small and intimate compared to today's huge event that we call "A Market Day at Birka." It was this very first event that gave Olaf the experience, desire and encouragement to successfully organize and create the first and foundation for today's Viking theme Merchant event that everyone simply calls "Birka."

"A Viking's Homecoming" was held eighteen years ago in the Barony of Stonemarche, in the hall of Kessler Farms in Nashua, New Hampshire. It was a small, intimate event that had "hot springs"(or a hot tub) for soothing relaxation. Olaf's initial brainstorm was to include many of the things that he liked to do when at an event, many of which are key to the enjoyment of Birka's current affair. Unfortunately late planning, and the fact that the SCA was less organized then, the advertising was done not through newsletters, but at events by word of mouth and with flyers that had an event description and schedule all in one. The site for "A Viking Homecoming" was limited to sixty people and fifty participated. The feast was served from many large pots filled with savory food, like stews, as well as a lovely turnip dish with an onion cream sauce. Twenty five pounds of turnips were sliced, prepped and cooked in Olaf's kitchen the evening before the event. All but one pound was eaten. Olaf describes the onion sauce was sipped like soup and was the memorable delicious dish that was very much enjoyed by all. It was a very relaxing time that cleared an entire five dollars after expenses.

The heavy fighting tournament was styled as an "Oxhyde Tourney", held in a ten by ten square that if someone stepped outside, they were dead. Wounds were sustained from one bout to the next. The appeal of this style of tourney was that it gave a novice a chance to beat a Duke. To keep track, a complicated scale of points was created. The format has remained pretty much the same despite the larger numbers in the tournament held at Birka today.

After this successful event called "A Viking's Homecoming," Olaf's interest of an event of grandeur quickly developed to the first "Market Day at Birka." There was much discussion at the Baronial meeting following the description for the next planned event. Overall it was met with great enthusiasm, although the general idea of a larger event meant 100 to 125 people and use of a larger, more expensive hall. Could enough be made to break even on an event in New Hampshire in January? The agreement was that if two hundred prepaid reservations could be met, then the larger hall could be reserved. Luckily, the agreed minimum was superceded at the Yule Festival of Mountain Freehold just before the deadline. Due to problems locating a site, the date was moved to January. The notion to hold this larger event over a three day weekend was one key to the grand plan, so Martin Luther King's weekend was chosen. A friend and fellow from Stonemarche suggested to Olaf that the event be based upon a Viking trading town, possibly Herbydy or Birka.. After some research, Olaf decided that the visit from Anskar (later St. Anskar) was the right time frame and type of market that he was looking for. So the name was chosen as Birka.

All of the Olaf's favorite activities were held: heavy fighting, an A&S contest, archery, thrown weapons, food and merchants. The result also included fencing, Morris dancing and a Quest. The many activities were not hindered by the event's problems behind the scenes. Prep was not completed; Katarina, the Feastocrat, and the event were saved by the Carolingian Cooks Guild joining the Stonemarche cooks in the kitchen. Upon realizing the ovens did not work properly, quick thinking saved half of the feast by sending the many dishes to individual's home ovens. The Merchants remained set up late while the dancing started. All who remained through Court were invited to feast for a fabulous finish to a successful event.

Despite the hiccups of an event of this size, the success of Birka has continued throughout the many years. A large event in New Hampshire held in January? It is wonderful to witness the cooperation that continues from then to today. The first Birka marked the spirit and tone for all future Market Days. The complete and compounded cooperation and "can-do-it" attitude held by the gentles of the Barony of Stonemarche is the true prize and worth of an idea bore to fruition, year after year after year: "A Market Day at Birka."

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Thank you Lord Olaf of Trollheimsfjord for the interview and THLord Stefan li Rous's effort in maintaining his Florilegium.



Chatelaine's Corner



SCA demos:

Water Walk update:

with the Rotary Club of Glens Falls

Saturday, May 10, 2008 "Clean Water Week" Crandall Park, Glens Falls, NY

Anyone interested in starting now to collect funds for Glenn Linn's entrance fee (\$100)? Or do you have an idea to do raise cash for this fee?

Do we want to try to make it an Unbelts practice? And/or a Northern Region practice?

Boy Scout update:

The date needs to be set (one day July 7 to 11) by the end of this month - want to go for an afternoon of demo? Pick a day that works for you and please let Frigga know!

We will be working with the Barony of Concordia of the Snows!

Still looking for volunteers and a few kid-interesting display items.

Do you have a craft to demonstrate that the kids would like?

Celtic Festival:

Saturday, July 19, 2008 at the West Mountain Ski Center Queensbury, NY

Newcomer Help:

Do you require aid in creating your first garb? Do you require aid in obtaining a name or creating a 'persona'? Please contact Frigga to arrange materials and time for your first garb at one of the A&S Circles. Loaner Garb is available if time does not permit a garb workshop prior to an event.

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