

# QUID ROYI

The Q.D.

THE VIKING ISSUE



Newsletter for the  
Barony of Caer Mear



## **Belts in Viking Women's Graves.**

**By Ásfríðr Ulfvíaðardóttir.**

Belts are an everyday accessory we might not often think about. They keep our pants up, cinch clothes in attractively at the waist, are a handy place to hang gloves and pouches from, and within the SCA can have the additional function of showing status and rank for certain people (such as the convention of a white belt signifying the wearer is a knight). But the evidence of belts being worn by Viking-age Scandinavian women is rather slim - only a handful of female graves and cremations contain belt hardware, fewer still have detailed excavation reports that show a buckle was found at the waist. But, in conjunction with indirect evidence, saga references, and what women of other contemporary cultures wore, it is still possible to gain a general, albeit limited, picture of what a Norse woman's belt may have looked like.

### **The Evidence for Buckles and Strap-Ends.**

The easiest sort of belt to document is one with metal fittings and hardware - they are less likely to break down in the soil after burial (Larsson, 2008), and treasure hunters are more likely to find, and report, a metal artifact over textile remains (e.g. Portable Antiquities Scheme, 2007, 2010). Not all buckles found in female graves were included, however, as in many cases it appears they were associated with horse tack (Pétursdóttir, 2007) or jewellery (Bratt, 2001a,b), and are therefore not indicative of a belt. The vast majority of finds occur outside of the Scandinavian peninsula, in areas of Norse settlement

This small collection of female graves with belt fittings, can be divided in to three categories of evidence:

1. Graves containing paired tortoise brooches, and belt hardware at the waist.
2. Graves without paired brooches, but with belt hardware at the waist.

Graves containing paired tortoise brooches, and belt hardware within the grave, or found nearby.

While the first category of evidence would, naturally, be the best sort, its rarity forces us to consider all of the available evidence.

Cnip headland on the Isle of Lewis is unique in this corpus, as it is the only interment with a detailed archaeological report describing the position of objects within the grave, as well as tortoise brooches. A 10<sup>th</sup> century female skeleton, was discovered with tortoise brooches, and a bronze buckle and strap end set, both found resting on her lower ribs (Welander *et al.*, 1987; Gordon, 1990). It appears that leather fragments remained between the bronze sheet-metal plates, indicating that she was buried wearing a short belt (Welander *et al.*, 1987). Interestingly, a strap-end in the same style, also with leather remains, has also been discovered in Kroppur, Eyjafjarðarsýsla, Iceland although that burial was without oval brooches (Hayeur-Smith, 2003ab). It is likely that both women from Cnip and Kroppur were of a mixed Norwegian/British Isles background (Hayeur-Smith, 2003b), or had another strong connection to the islands. An analysis of the tooth enamel of the Cnip woman showed that she was native to the

British Isles, although she may have been of Norwegian descent, and it is probable her oval brooches were heirlooms (Montgomery *et al.*, 2003). Two further graves have been reported as revealing a buckle at the waist, although neither woman appears to also have been buried wearing tortoise brooches. Grave sk 27 at Cumwhitton, Cumbria, England is that of a woman wearing a copper-alloy buckle that had traces of sealskin between the plates (Watson, 2009-10; Oxford Archaeology North, 2009). St Patrick's Isle, a tiny island between Scotland and Ireland was the site of a grave containing a probable woman. A buckle was found at the waist, while the strap-end hung down to the knee. 'Near to, but below' the buckle were some fragments that may have been contained by, or were part of, a pouch or purse suspended from the belt (Freke and Allison, 2002). There are graves, either disturbed, excavated in a haphazard manner, or loose finds near previous burials, where both tortoise brooches and belt hardware have been discovered, although it is difficult to say for certain what the belt may originally have been associated with. For example, in 1963, a farmer was digging a hole in order to bury a cow at Westness, on the island of Rousay, and unearthed the remains of a 9<sup>th</sup> century woman and her newborn child. Placing his cow on top of the skeleton, he disturbed the grave contents so the original placement of objects, including two Anglo-Saxon style strap ends, is unknown (Henshall, 1963; Graham-Campbell and Batey, 1998; Batey, 2005). A contemporary grave in Kaupang, Norway, contained a bronze belt buckle, a pair of tortoise brooches and an equal-armed brooch (Blindheim, 1976). A female grave from Daðastaðir, Iceland, contained a copper-alloy belt buckle 'said to be adorned with two highly stylized animal heads' and a pair of tortoise brooches (Hayeur-Smith, 2003a). Where precisely this buckle was found in the grave is unknown. A silver-plated bronze buckle, decorated with a niello inlay of knot work, was found along with a possible belt mount and paired tortoise brooches at Bhaltos, Isle of Lewis (Gordon, 1990; Grieg, 1940; Macleod, 1915), believed to date from the 9-10<sup>th</sup> centuries (National Museums of Scotland; 000-100-102-641-C). However the sizes of the belt mount and buckle are noticeably different, with the mount almost twice as wide as the buckle. On Reay, Caithness, a small tin-plated bronze buckle was found in a 10<sup>th</sup> century grave with a pair of tortoise brooches (Gordon, 1990; Curle, 1915). All of these finds provide evidence that buckles were present in female graves, but they cannot be used to categorically state that these Viking Age women wore a belt at their waist. Finds that can only be tentatively associated with a female grave include a buckle loop from Cruach Mor, on the Isle of Islay, Scotland, which was discovered as a loose find in the 1970s; however previously in 1958 a Norse burial was discovered at the same site (Gordon, 1990). There is also said to be a female grave from the Inner Hebrides at Kildonan, Eigg, containing a buckle; however the references given point towards a male burial, as a sword was also found (Gordon, 1990; Grieg, 1940). Of the nine examples of belt hardware I have been able to find, that mention their dimensions, the majority (4) are approximately 15 mm wide. Two items were 25 mm wide, and the remaining three were 35 mm wide. Of the three finds that mention the presence of belt remains, all of them are leather (Welander *et al.*, 1987; Hayeur-Smith, 2003a; Watson, 2009-10). Due to such a small sample size, it is impossible to draw any firm conclusions, but it appears that there is some evidence for Norse, or Celtic-Norse women wearing leather belts with metal decoration. It also seems quite likely that these were also slightly narrower than belts worn by men -

known, including a 15 mm wide example from grave 56 at Luistari, Finland, but there are no examples of female graves containing belt fittings (Lehtosalo-Hilander, 1984). Viking-Age Livs, from a territory that encompassed parts of modern-day Latvia and Estonia, are believed to have worn belts made from woolen sprang (Zarina, 1985; Zeiere, 2005; Latvijas Nacionālais Vēstures muzejs). We also have some idea of how woven garters for men may have been constructed. 10 mm wide wool bands from the Mammen burial, often described as garter bands, have been reconstructed using finger weaving, pointing towards another possible textile technique (Hald, 1980; Kaland, 1992).

### Belt Pouches

The next question is *why* did these women wear a belt? It may have been merely for fashion, or to visually communicate the ethnicity (Hayeur Smith, 2003b) or status (Price, 2004) of an individual, in life as well as in death. We know that Finnish women, for example, used their belts to hold their mittens and apron in place (Lehtosalo-Hilander, 1984). Today, we treat belts as a handy place to hang a pouch, as our Viking-Age clothes do not come with pockets. In our pouches, we would store ID cards, money, keys, maybe a mobile phone, medication-- the list goes on. But 1000 years ago, Norse women seemed to only rarely carry pouches, and if they were attached to a belt in a burial it was because the woman was likely a seiðr practitioner (Price, 2004). Seiðr, sometimes translated as sorcery (Price, 2008), was practiced by a section of Norse pre-Christian society, often female, who carried with them staffs, 'amulets and charms of various kinds, including preserved body-parts of animals, and... mind-altering drugs such as cannabis and henbane (*ibid.*). These items had to be carried somehow, and it appears that the typical solution was a belt pouch (Price, 2004). For example, a 10<sup>th</sup> century grave from Fyrkat, Denmark, is believed to be that of a völvu, or seeress. It appears that she was wearing a belt, and a pouch, because at her waist was a group of henbane seeds, 'which suggests that they had originally been gathered in some kind of belt-pouch made of organic matter that has since decayed' (*ibid.*). *Eiríks saga rauða*, thought to have been written down in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, also mentions a prophetess called Thorbjorg who was described as '**...hon hafði um sik hnióskulinda, ok var á skióðupungri mikill; varðveitti hon þar í taufr...**' (She wore a belt, soft like punk, and there (on it) was a large pouch of skin; where she kept her magical charms safe.) (Gordon and Taylor, 1956, own translation). This strong connection between the wearing of a belt pouch and sorcery may be an issue for those with Norse personae, who may not wish to inadvertently advertise their skills in pre-Christian religious practice. Another reason pouches may not have been worn is the apparent fashion for chatelaine-style hanging of personal belongings from tortoise brooches or a tool brooch (e.g. Hägg, 1996; Pettersson, 1968).

### Conclusions

Too often, differences in material culture between different Viking-age Scandinavian groups have been overlooked in favor of a more generic interpretation. One such example may be the wearing of belts, which appears to have varied in fashion according to place and occupation. Western Norse settlements, such as the Hebrides and Iceland, appear to have had a fashion for wearing narrow leather belts with a buckle and/

men's belts in one survey averaged at about 20 mm wide (Jomsborg, 2006)

### Exceptions and Parallels

There are female graves that contain characteristically Norse items as well as buckles and strap ends outside of these typically Norwegian areas. It has been reported that strap-ends, and a single belt buckle, have been found within female cremation graves in Swedish Birka (Jansson, 1986; Mälarstedt, 1986), although Geijer reconstructed female Norse dress without any belt (Geijer, 1938). This is because these strap ends are believed to have been part of a 9<sup>th</sup> century fashion trend -they modified and worn as jewellery (Ericsson and Carlsson, 2001). Birka cremation grave Bj 456, identified as female but containing no paired brooches, included a buckle (Mälarstedt, 1986; Historiska Museet, 2010), although there is no way of knowing how or why it was originally woman A carved figure on the cart buried on the 9<sup>th</sup> century Oseberg ship could also be interpreted as a woman in t gown, wearing a tasseled belt at her waist (Universitetsmuseenes Fotoportal, 2010). Interestingly, the appearance of this woman strongly resembles the dress of the 10-11<sup>th</sup> century Skjoldehamn bog find. Located in Arctic Norway, and believed to be a Saami woman (Løvlid, 2009a,b), she was wearing a woolen, plaited belt (Gjessing, 1938) that has been recently reconstructed as ending in small, decorative tassels (Løvlid, 2009a).

Even further east, on the other side of the Norse homelands, a double cremation burial from Timerevo, outside of Yaroslavl, Russia, appears to have bone and metalwork remains of each body placed at either end of the grave. The teenaged girl was buried with a strap end, strap mount and circular brooch of bronze, but no paired brooches (Duczko, 2004; 195). Duczko describes this as a Norse grave, presumably dated from the late 9<sup>th</sup> to the mid 10<sup>th</sup> centuries, (*ibid.* 191-3). However due to the nature of cremations, it is impossible to say for certain if this belt hardware was worn at her waist. A 10-11<sup>th</sup> century chamber grave of 'Scandinavian type' from Kiev, contained a 16 to 18 year old woman and a bronze belt buckle (Ivakin, 2004-5), once again without paired brooches. In a reconstruction drawing, this buckle has been interpreted as fastening a belt that a leather purse was suspended from (*ibid.*) This grave also illustrates the importance of knowing the position, and any modification, of belt fittings within the grave. Her necklace included two Magyar-styled silver belt fittings, that had riveted suspension loops. Along with the Birka buckle, Rus strap ends, and the carving from Oseberg, there is further indirect evidence that points towards some sort of belt being worn by Norse women. The woolen fragment from Hedeby Harbor, that has been interpreted as a panel in an apron dress, has a long strip where the fabric was worn down and fullled, approximately 15 cm parallel from the top edge (Hägg, 1984). This has been presumed to have been from the dress rubbing against something that has been interpreted as a belt (Hägg, 1984). This is often assumed to be a tablet woven sash by re-enactors and re-constructors (Priest-Dorman, 1999; Persdotter, 2001, Krupp, 2004); however the panel had presumably passed through the hands of numerous owners before it was used as caulking rags on a ship; there is no way to know what style of belt was worn. It seems to be generally assumed, because of the paucity of evidence for leather belts, that fabric belts may have been worn by women. Neighboring non-Norse cultures may also provide glimpses of what form these fabric belts may have taken. In the eastern Baltic, tablet woven belts are

or strap end. There is also evidence of strap ends and buckles from cremation graves in Birka and the lands of the Rus, which may point towards leather belts being worn there, too. By and large, however, the evidence is indirect and it seems much more likely that if a belt was worn, then it was made of textile and was not preserved. It seems items hanging from such a belt are rare, possibly because there was a fashion for chatelaine-style hanging of personal belongings from the tortoise brooches or tool brooch (e.g. Hägg, 1996; Pettersson, 1968), or because of cultural associations with seiðr, which may be overlooked by costumers. Although other re-enactors have extrapolated from these few finds that belts with associated buckles and strap ends indicate a universal Viking-world fashion (eg. Jomsborg, 2006), it is unlikely that this is the case. While today we are inclined to see the Scandinavians of the period as being generically Norse and fairly homogeneous, it is unlikely that this is how they saw themselves. Fashions in clothing varied in time and place, such as between Swedish Birka (Geijer, 1938), Gutnish Gotland (Kaland, 1992), Danish Hedeby (Hägg, 1984) and Norse Dublin (Heckett, 2003), so why not fashions in belts and sashes, too? The vast majority of the belt-fittings discovered are believed to have originated in Celtic-Norse regions (Blindheim, 1976), and I am firmly of the opinion that a belt, probably leather, with a buckle and/or strap end was a fashion worn by only a particular sub-set of women; those with connected to Norway and the western Norwegian colonies. Archaeology is unable to reveal to us how these women viewed themselves, and their cultural identity, and what statement they intended to make in death by wearing Norse tortoise brooches, and Celtic belt fittings (Hayeur-Smith, 2003b). Turn this Celtic-Norwegian fashion to your advantage, to paraphrase Mistress Thora Sharptooth: 'Hang a date and a locale on your persona, and be able to demonstrate it in your choice of clothing' and impress everyone with your not-so-generic Viking-Age outfit (Priest-Dorman, 1996)!

### Biography

Ásfríðr Ulfviðardóttir is a 10<sup>th</sup> century Dane who travelled south as a camp follower until she suddenly found herself in the Kingdom of Lochac. Rebecca Lucas is a botany student living in Melbourne, who can be e-mailed at [rebe.lucas@gmail.com](mailto:rebe.lucas@gmail.com).

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**My Thanks to Lady Ásfríðr for sharing her knowledge for the benefit of the good people of Caer Mear and Atlantia**





# THE SERGEANTS OF ST. AIDAN

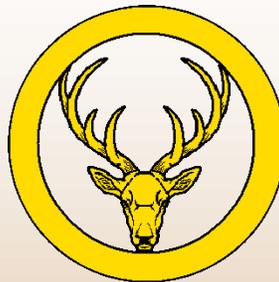


**“By and amongst ourselves, in strength, in service, in brotherhood”**

Information from <http://staiden.atlantia.sca.org/index.html>

The Sergeants of St. Aidan was established by His Grace Anton Tremayne, then King of Atlantia by right of Arms, and Emer ny Reyly on January 13 AS XXXV so that the best of Atlantia's unbelted fighters might be recognized by and amongst themselves; that the King may have a band of warriors whose friendship may be sorely taxed in war and peace; and that the excellence in war of Atlantia's unbelted fighters might be made yet greater by their diligence. This order was created to provide an elite fighting force to aid in the training of the Atlantian Army and to perform special missions upon and off the field at the command of the King of Atlantia, Prince or His warlord. Much like Saint Aiden himself, the Sergeants shall be required to perform feats and missions whose success could only be called miraculous. The "Mission Log" will tell the tales so that all may know and remember.

**Even the snows of the Ice Giant Ymir could not dim the pride of the Sergeants on the induction of two new members to the order on 2/17/13**



**Lord Alain de la Rochelle**



**Lord Randall de Gloucester**





### **The Scrivener Royal competition at Spring Coronation is quickly approaching!**

The Scrivener Royal is selected by Their Majesties and is a Kingdom Notable position lasting the duration of Their reign. The selected person will be the personal scribe to the Crown and is expected to serve in that position while providing encouragement to others in the art. As Scrivener Royal, you also have the privilege of hosting the next competition and providing the scroll for the winning competitor.

During the reign, you will work with The Crowns and the Clerk Signet to choose upcoming scrolls you would like to complete and will have the opportunity to be the lead scribe at any Royal progress event you would like to attend. Their Majesties may also ask for additional assignments to be completed for them during their reign.

In order to be considered you must enter at least one RECENTLY assigned to you Kingdom AoA-level backlog scroll into the competition. "Recent" for this competition is considered to be any backlog assignment you have received since January 1, 2013.

Documentation of your work is not required. Any documentation you can provide is recommended of course, but please do not let this be a barrier to your participation.

Anyone whose entry is based off of a recognized Book of Hours, with a photo of your work beside the original source/ page in your display, will be given a special token from the outgoing Scrivener Royal. This is not a competition, but an opportunity to highlight these unique art pieces. All attempts at this will be recognized.

For the first time, Their Highnesses are inviting anyone attempting to become their Scrivener Royal to participate in two additional side competitions: 1) Completed Backlog Scrolls 2) Scroll blanks for future use. For the completed backlog assignments, ANY pieces completed since Spring Coronation, 2012 will be count toward your total. Printed scans of your work will be accepted for this display. Please help us show off everyone's hard work!

For the scroll blank competition, it is encouraged that the contestants work with other scribes who may or may not be entering the Scrivener Royal contest themselves. During Period, many people would work together in order to complete the illumination and wording within books of the time. Someone would make the vellum/ parchment, someone else would repair tears in the pages if the need arose, line/ rule the pages, make the ink, write the text, apply gold or other embellishments, paint in the illuminations, bind the pages, etc... They all brought something different and specific to the table to complete the piece. Work with your scriptorium or make a batch all by yourself. Scribal coordination is a skill that is highly sought after throughout the kingdom, and this is a chance to recognize it.

If you do not have a current backlog assignment and need an assignment for this competition, *please contact the Atlantian Clerk Signet as soon as possible.*

Websites to visit for competition details: <http://atlantianspringcoronation.yolasite.com/> and <http://www.facebook.com/events/152854844870521/>

Please contact me at [scrivenerroyal@yahoo.com](mailto:scrivenerroyal@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

*Thank you all and we look forward to seeing you at Coronation!*

**The Kingdom Event Bid Committee has been working hard to keep Kingdom events rotating around the Kingdom and getting events/sites confirmed well in advance of the date. The help of the good people of Atlantia is needed in this effort to keep the schedule running smoothly. The Event Bid Committee is currently looking for bids for the following events:preferred location)/ Event/ Bid deadline**

**(Southern Region) Unevent 2013 Deadline: April 1, 2013**

**(Central Region) 12th Night 2014 Deadline: April 1, 2013**

**(Central Region) Spring Coronation 2014 Deadline: April 15, 2013**

**(Central Region) Golden Rose Deadline: April 15, 2013**

**(Southern Region) Spring Crown 2014 Deadline: April 15, 2013**

**(Northern Region) Fall Coronation 2014 Deadline: May 1, 2013**

**Any group/household, or your Barony/Canton is interested in hosting a Kingdom event can find helpful information at these sites <http://seneschal.atlantia.sca.org/KingdomBids/> Also the Kingdom Event Bid Committee ([kingdomevents@atlantia.sca.org](mailto:kingdomevents@atlantia.sca.org)) is always available and glad to answer any questions you may have, offer suggestion as to possible locations for the event and even give help and guidance on how to submit the bid. Please feel free to contact them with any questions you may have.**



### ***There is still time !!!***

***to make reservations for the Barony of***

***Caer Mear's 35th Anniversary Feast.***

Reservations are \$15 per person and will be accepted up to the 1 March deadline. If you've attended a Caer Mear feast, then you know the food will be excellent and a good value. If you've attended one of my banquets, then you know the ingredients and service will be superior, and that you will have plenty of time for good food, good company, and good entertainment throughout, followed by an evening of revelry, dancing, and a sideboard of delightful, delectable desserts. The feast will be

German - over 23 dishes served in 5 courses. An ABC permit allows you to bring your own selection of beers and wine, but no hard liquor. We are supporting local producers as much as possible: local organic pork, local organic free-range chickens, local organic eggs, even locally-grown organic morels! Our venison is local, organic, free-range, and humanely taken. We will serve local, artisanal breads, including bread made by our very own Royal Baker!

(Full Menu below)

***Tomas De Montroig***



## Herewith, the menu for Caer Alear's 35th Jubilauin Fest

### First Course - a selection of tastes to whet the appetite

Heidenische Kuchen - flatbread topped with spit-roasted pork, hand-cured bacon, apples, and fine spices

Rabiolin zu Machen - ravioli pillows of fresh spinach, local chicken, and cheese

Mushroom pastries - locally-grown morel mushrooms, individually wrapped in dough and baked

Ain Kreittertorten - baked tart of fresh chard, herbs, fine spices, bound up in local eggs

Ain Epffelbolster - battered and fried pillows of fresh apple

### Second Course

Einen Fladen - hand-built pork and fresh cheese pie

Ein spise von bonen - young, tender green peas (and steamed broccolini for those who don't care for peas)

Weiss Schwammen - local mushrooms roasted with butter

Ein gute fulle - spiced apples with local wildflower honey

### Third Course

Küniges Hüenren - local, free-range, organic chicken baked in casserole with a delicately spiced quince sauce

Die Heizzet Ris von Kriechen - rice from Greece

Ain Jenaweser Torta - a tart of greens, sharp cheese, and fresh ricotta

Ein Morchen Mus - carrots puréed with a white-wine almond milk and fine spices

Ain Torten von Biren - free-form pear tarts glazed with sugar and spices

### Fourth Course

Venison sausages served with mustard sauces

Marinierter roter Kohl - red cabbage marinated in red wine and spices

Wiltú Kesßkiechlen Bachen - delicately fried cheese buns

Ain Feigenmúß - a pudding of figs in a red-wine reduction with bread

### Fifth Course - the dessert sideboard

Einen Mandel Wecke - delicate creamed almond shapes dusted with colored sugars

Nurenburger Lebkuchen - honey spiced cake

Strauben - funnel cakes

Gefilt Semel zu Machen - almond milk and cherry rice pudding

Ein Konkavelite - baked bread pudding, delicately spiced and served in bars



..and more!



*Unto the citizens of Caer Mear do Wolfgang and Iseulte send greetings  
this blustery winter day.*

We would like to recognize Lady Isabel Henry for her fine showing as Our Champion at Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival in February. While her entry did not win overall, she did earn the highest score for Baronial Representation. Congratulations are also in order for Lord Henricus Guotman for entering and winning the Royal Baker competition. It was hard earned, and definitely well deserved. Other members of the populace who displayed their talents at KASF include Lady Brianna, Lady Olivia, Lord Ziyod, and Lady Astrid (yes, dessert counts!). My apologies if I missed anyone. We look forward to showcasing even more local talent next year. Start planning your displays now. You never know, We might join you on the display board.

We will choose Our Champions at Caer Mear's 35<sup>th</sup> Juilaun Fest on March 16. Because of site restrictions, the Archery Champion will be determined at archery practice on March 10 so that we may celebrate both Our incoming and outgoing Champions at the event. If you are a current Champion, please be sure to bring your regalia to the event to be presented to your successor. If you have a question regarding what it takes to be a Champion, please speak to one of Us. Everyone, please send in your preregistrations as soon as possible in order to ensure that the staff can adequately plan for your attendance.

Speaking of event planning, Ruby Joust II and Pennsic are coming up. I encourage you to attend and volunteer. Let Us know if you are attending either event, and where you plan to camp. Our Land Agent for Pennsic is Baroness Inga; and Our camp manager for Pennsic is Lady Brianna. We still need a Caer Mear camp manager for Ruby Joust. Please see Baroness Iseulte if you are interested.

Several new people have joined us over the past few months. Remember that even though we have a Chatelaine designated to help them through the confusion, ushering new members is everyone's responsibility. If you see a new face, please take a few moments to introduce yourself and help them integrate. Sometimes being able to rely on a friendly face is the one thing that will keep our new members coming back. Trying to join a new group is hard. They have made the first step by showing up. Let's reward that effort by making them feel welcome.

Warmest regards,

*Baron Wolfgang & Baroness Iseulte*



*Kingdom Arts & Science Festival*

*From Baroness Iseulte of the Red Cliffs*

Thank you to all of the members of the populace who took part in the Kingdom Arts and Sciences Festival yesterday. Caer Mear is definitely a bright light in the Kingdom! I would like to recognize the following individuals and thank them for attending:

*Her Gracious Highness, Ysabella*, who honored the artisans by her honest appreciation of their efforts

*Lord Henricus* who won the Royal Baker Competition against some very stiff competition

*Lady Isabel* who represented the Barony well in the Baronial Champions competition (1st for Baronial Representation, and 3rd overall)

*Lord Ziyod* with his lovely display of silver jewelry

Lady Olivia with her scribal display

*Lady Brianna* with her etched glass display (ask to see her newest piece!)

*Lady Dominica*—for selflessly helping out in the kitchens

*Lady Astrid* for retaining, and who laid out an amazing dessert board consisting of lime, lemon, and orange cookies, and two delicious fruit and custard tarts

*Lady Osa*, who retained all day (and snuck in some A&S too)

*Lady Kaolin*, who made a beautiful red wool cloak to set off Lord Ziyod's jewelry display

*Lady Margaret of Buckrode*- a fine display for the Kingdom Baker competition

*Baroness Inga* -who came and supported us all.





## Welcome to the Cooks Corner!

The premier of a new monthly feature to tempting taste buds and inspiring culinarians!

### Simple Vanilla Pudding (which can be made into chocolate or butterscotch)



2 cups milk  
3 tablespoons (more or less) honey or sugar. I use "sugar in the raw."  
3 tablespoons cornstarch, or 6 tablespoons flour  
2 eggs, well beaten (optional)  
1 tablespoon vanilla  
a pat o' butter

Mix the cold milk, sweetener, and cornstarch well then bring to a simmer in a heavy saucepan. Stir until thickened. If using eggs, stir about 1/2 cup of the hot mixture into the beaten eggs, then dribble the mixture back into the pudding while stirring it (over low heat for one minute). Stir in vanilla and butter. Serve warm or chilled. Makes four servings. This recipe is less sweet than the commercial puddings, and more flavorful.

It's also versatile. Add 1/4- cup baking cocoa to make chocolate, or substitute brown sugar to make butterscotch. Or substitute coconut milk, or just add fresh fruit. The flavor possibilities are endless.

*Lady Isabel Henry*



## A Few notes and Random thoughts from The Chronicler



Next month marks an important event in the barony with the coronation of TRH Amos and Ysabella taking place in nearby Marinus. There will be so much to do before, during and especially after the event. I encourage newer folks (like myself) to attend the class on retaining on March 19th to help make you feel more comfortable with the how, what and where of it all. For many, this is a familiar path, I hope that they will engage in the excitement of the day as if it were their first coronation.

**"The pleasure of criticizing takes away from us the pleasure of being moved by some very fine things."**

**— Jean de La Bruyère**

# The Caer Mear Boob-fish Guild

Approximately 4 years ago as Dame Magda valiantly struggled to instruct us in Viking wire weaving, the Boob-fish guild came into being. Like any secret society worth it's salt, the guild's agenda is, for the most part, secret. Rumor has they are heavily involved in all aspects of baronial life from creating wonderful food and drink to dealing with the baronial sheep. I was able to take a few photos (at great risk to myself) of the Viking beads worn by the members. They are presented here for your enlightenment.

I urge you to ask yourself, Are you **"one of us"** ? Would you like to be???

See Dame Magda at the Anniversary Feast!!



## Minutes from the Baronial Meeting 2/19/13 7pm

(With my thanks to Terry for her notes since it seems I am punctuality challenged)

Seneschal-see bid requests for kingdom events, as well as positions open. See the new social media policy recently released.

Exchequer- Ending balance-5,428.20

Chatelaine- Preparing for Newcomers point at Ruby joust

Chronicler- Can't keep track of the meeting time and missed it 🙄

Webminister-Site updated with 35th anniversary information. ACCEPS is now up for Ruby Joust.

Rivers Point-More support is needed from the barony for silk banner making

Yarnvid- 2 New members!!

Caer Mear Anniversary Feast-Help is needed as servers as well as set up crew on Friday night. PLEASE REGISTER.

Ruby Joust- ABC license, ACCEPS, website

New Business- Golden Rose (April 20th) to borrow the tourney fencing. They need to work with the Quartermaster to coordinate details.

Potential for demo at Chesterfield fair grounds June 1st, to be investigated.

Need to contact TSP about bathroom repairs before Ruby

Meeting closed 8:01

## MARCH A&S

March 5th- Illumination 103- Lady Olivia

March 12th- Bring your current project

March 19th- Retaining 101 and Irish Songs- Lady Kilmeny

March 26th- Chain Maille- Lady Drynnith

April 2nd- Open hood- Lady Kat Fernly

Don't forget about the selection of the new Baronial Artisan at the anniversary feast!

Competitions for silk banner and table decorations. THL Brianna will supervise.

Also remember! There will be an A&S Ruby prize the is for Best use of Ruby, household item and youth. We would like to see an Artisans row, so let's see the wealth that Caer Mear has in it's artisans!!!!



*Unto the populace of fair Atlantia do Their Royal Majesties, Vladimir and Kalisa, Tsar and Tsaritsa, send greetings.*

As many of you are aware the SCA has been involved in a lawsuit for a number of years. The initial lawsuit was settled last year, however the insurance company was refusing to cover both the cost of settlement and the SCA's attorney's fees. At that time, the Board of Directors ("the Board") required each of the branches to donate funds to meet the financial obligations of the settlement as well any additional legal expenses. Since that time last year, a lawsuit has been pending regarding the refusal of our insurance company to cover those costs. It is Our pleasure to inform you that a settlement has been reached in the lawsuit that has been pending between SCA, Inc. and the insurance company. Yesterday The Crowns, Heirs, Seneschals and Exchequers of the Kingdoms of the Known World met via conference call with the Board to hear the outcome of the settlement agreement. The Board was pleased to inform us that Every Kingdom in the Knowne World stepped forward to contribute and give support, including those not required nor requested to do so. Due to the non-disclosure agreement that accompanied the settlement with the insurance company, the Board is not able to discuss any of the details of the settlement. They were, however, permitted to inform us that each Kingdom is being reimbursed approximately 2/3 of the monies that each kingdom donated to the SCA to cover the costs of the initial lawsuit settlement, and additional legal expenses. We are expecting that the checks will be dispersed to each Kingdom early this week. The Kingdom Financial Committee will be meeting later this week to discuss the disbursement of the reimbursement within Atlantia. This is a true example of why the SCA works and how we can all protect each other in times of adversity. We wish to offer Our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Board and Society officers who take on these difficult responsibilities and give so freely of their time so that we may all continue to live the dream. We also wish to thank all of you, the people of Atlantia, for willingly giving of your time to do fundraisers and money from your coffers, and for your continued patience, cooperation, and dedication to Atlantia and Our Society.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Us, Our Heirs, or the Kingdom Seneschal

In service to Atlantia and All Her people,

*Vladimir*  
Tsar

*Kalisa*  
Tsaritsa



## **Baronage-Caer Mear**

Baron Wolfgang Moennich von Luppin

Baroness Iseulte of the Red Cliffs

Moe & Kitty Moyer

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### **Seneschal**

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Tom McDonald

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## **Canton of Caer Gelynniog**

### **Seneschal**

Broccan mac Ronain ui Lochlainn

William "Skip" Davis

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## **Canton of Rivers Point**

### **Seneschal**

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## **Chronicler**

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Brenda Pomfrey

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## **Exchequer**

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Larry Baxter

(804) 405-4617

## **Chancellor Minor &**

## **VA Vice-Chancellor of Youth**

Rosaleen Robertson

Ann Davis

[youthchancellor AT caer-mear.atlantia.sca.org](mailto:youthchancellor AT caer-mear.atlantia.sca.org)

## **Minister of the List (acting)**

Bojzena Z Osturna

(804) 569-1881 (no calls after 9pm)

If there has been a change in officers or if information is listed incorrectly you must email the chronicler. All additions or changes must be in writing, giving permission to print whatever personal info you wish posted. Minimum contact info is your SCA name, your legal name and your e-mail address. Any additional contact info is optional.

## **Knight Marshal**

Lady Osa

Samantha Baxter

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## **Herald**

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Ed Claytor

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Isabel Henry

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[lumiere62 AT verizon.net](mailto:lumiere62 AT verizon.net)

## The Atlantian Calendar of Events for 2013



Cancelled Winter University (Pr) Atlantia

8-10 Middle Atlantian Archery Day-Marinus, Spring Grove, VA

9 St. Paddy's Day Blood Bath-Ponte Alto, Vienna, VA

10-17 Gulf Wars XXII  (R,H) Gleann Abhann

16 Scribal Workshop-Bright Hills, Towson, MD

16 Caer Mear's 35th Jubilaun Fest (The Anniversary Feast)-Rivers Point, Midlothian, VA

17- **ST. PATRICK'S DAY-**

22-24 Le Grand Tournoi d'Amitie Trois (The Grand Tournament of Friends V)-Elvegast Bunnlevel, NC

23 Seven Hills Skirmishes-Black Diamond, Lynchburg, VA

23 Tir-Y-Don Baronial Birthday-Tir-y-Don, Yorktown, VA

30 Defending the Gate XII (R,H)-Sudentorre, Spotsylvania, VA



5-7 Coronation of Amos and Ysabella (R,H)-Marinus, Spring Grove, VA

<http://atlantianspringcoronation.yolasite.com>. Pipsico Boy Scout Reserve, 57 Pipsico Rd ,  
Spring Grove, VA 23881.

12-14 Drums of War IV-Baelfire Dunn, Boonville, NC

12-14 Night Out of Town-Lochmere, Annapolis, MD

13 Running of the Lemmings-Abhainn Iarthair, Front Royal, VA

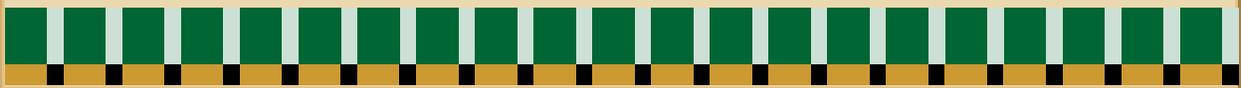
20 Golden Rose Tournament-Atlantia, Lanexa, VA

25-28 Blackstone Raid XXII-Aethelmearc

26-28 Southern Atlantian Archery Day VII-Crois Brigitte, Booneville, NC

26-28 Beltane XXXII-Berley Cort, Sedley, VA

27 Sergeants & Scholars-Roxbury Mill, Brookeville, MD



# Scheduled Meetings

## Caer Mear

Business Meetings

Monthly; 3rd Tuesday at 7:00pm

Fighter Practice / A&S Gathers

Weekly; every Tuesday at 7:00pm

Both are held at Battery Park Christian Church,

4201 Brook Road, Richmond VA

## College of Yarnvid

Business Meetings

Held as needed.

Arts & Science Gathers

Weekly; every Thursday at 7:30pm

Both are held at Epiphany Church

11000 Smoketree Drive, Richmond VA

Archery Practice

Weekly; every Sunday at 1:00pm

Held at Rockwood Park

3401 Courthouse Rd, Chesterfield VA

## Caer Gelynniog

Business Meetings

Monthly; every 2nd Thursday at 7:00pm

Held at Bethel Baptist Church

227 Bethel Church Road, Palmyra, VA, 22963

## Canton of Rivers Point

Business Meetings

Monthly; every 1st Sunday during gather.

Fighter Practice / A&S Gathers

Bi-monthly; 1st & 3rd Sundays from 1:00pm to 4pm

Both are held at the Colonial Heights Public Library

1000 Yacht Basin Dr, Colonial Heights, VA

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Please send submissions to pennyhaller@yahoo.com

[www.caermear.atlantia.sca.org](http://www.caermear.atlantia.sca.org)

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