



the skein

wherein ARE wound
the JARARVELLIR JARNS



The Skein
Paul Goldschmidt
5625 Highland Way
Middleton WI 53562



JANUARY 2009 A.S. XLIII



BARONESS:

Her Excellency Eithni ingen Talorgain (*Jean Hetzel*) 4934
 Goldfinch Dr, Madison WI 53714, 628-7782, 226-0846,
 baronesseithni@yahoo.com

BARONIAL OFFICERS



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 corvusjoyous@gmail.com



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 ladywren@gmail.com



Chirurgicon: Lady Fiona (*Lyn Andreassen*) 445-4622,
 tskrangsangel@lycos.com



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 goldschp@tds.net

Demo Coordinator: Annora le Spindlere (*Vicki Spindler*) 835-2617,
 democoordinator@jararvellir.org

Directory: Cwenthryth wine (*Toni Sumner-Beebe*) 298-0918
 cwen@uwalumni.com



Exchequer: Lady Tatiana McGowan (*Dawn Brueggemann*) 989-493-
 9019, exchequer@jararvellir.org

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 bettymae.doyle@charter.net



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Baronial Web Page: <http://www.jararvellir.org>

Baronial Email list: jararvellir@minstrel.com

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SUBMISSIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscriptions for 2009 are free, but there is a recommended donation of \$1 per issue to cover postage and copying (Full year = \$12). Submissions will be edited for grammar and spelling. Anything that is in poor taste or violates SCA publication guidelines or copyright law will not be published. *The Skein* is published monthly on the first Wednesday after General Meeting. The submission deadline for each issue is the Friday before the General Meeting of the publishing month. Submissions are accepted in any (legible!) format and via e-mail. Please also include any publication restrictions beyond those of this newsletter.

ART CREDITS: The cover and interior art are unattributed and taken from an unknown antique book, reproduced at the Karen's Whimsy website (<http://karenswhimsy.com>).

CANTON OF COILLE STOIRMEIL

(Monroe & Juneau County, WI)

<http://www.coillestoirmeilonline.org>

Seneschal: Matthias of Rolling Oaks (Matt Schwall)

23149 State Hwy 21, Tomah WI 54660

limos112@hotmail.com, (608) 372-5445

Monthly Meeting: First or second Sunday of the month at the Nest in Tomah

BARONIAL MEETINGS, GUILDS, AND CONTACTS

Please call the contact person to verify when & where an activity is held!

Archery Practice Sun 12-2PM, Wed. 6:30-9PM. UW Stock Pavilion

Contact: Lady Jois (Deena) 226-0846

Armoured Combat Wed. 7-10PM, Sunday 2-4PM. UW Stock Pavilion

Contact: Roisin igen Ailill (Rebecca Heidelberger) 244-4621, roisin106@aol.com

Armormaking Tuesdays 7PM. 3314 Ridgeway Avenue

Contact: Master Giles (Ed Gilbert) 244-2845, horsebows@mail.madtown.net

Bardic Arts (not currently active)

Contact: Vacant

Brewing & Vintning Third Monday. Various locations (call for info)

Contact: Robert the Stout (Robert Trefz) 441-6150, rtrefz@tds.net

Calligraphy & Illumination Tuesdays 7PM. Call for location

Contact: Lady Eile (Alicia Cronk) 250-4595, leleth.faery@yahoo.com

Clothier's Guild Alternate Mondays, 7PM. Contact for location and dates.

Contact: Iohanna (A. Rebekah Turner) 957-9072, arebekah@gmail.com

Cordial Guild First Tuesday 7:30PM Contact for location

Contact: Lady Cianna Kharleen (Carrie Wilkey) 846-8008, cianna@teadame.com

Equestrian (not currently active but information available)

Contact: Alissende de Montfaucon (Tammy Thompson) 212-5433, alissende@centurytel.net

European Dance Sundays 3PM. UW Campus—check TITU for room.

Contact: Lady Genevieve Elisabeth Dumas (Jenny Becker) 206-9330, kathrynscurly98@aol.com

Fletching Fridays 6:30PM (call ahead) 5418 Imagine

Contact: Lord Toussaint de Caluwe (Tyson Patterson) 838-4092

Fool's Guild Alternate Wednesday 6:30PMish, UW Stock Pavilion.

Contact: Lady Aliénor Hathaway (Mariessa Dobrick) 658-8941, reesa83@aol.com

General Business Meeting Usually 1st Sunday, 7PM, Edgewood College,

Predolin Hall — call to verify meeting date and location.

Contact: Ivan Matfeevich Rezansky (John Beebe) 298-0918, rezansky@sbcglobal.net

Instrumental Music Mondays 7PM-Beginners, 8PM-Advanced.

UW Campus—Check TITU

Contact: Lord Nikolaus der Ausländer (Clint Hotaling) 846-0859, n_auslander@hotmail.com

Middle Eastern Dance and Drumming Wednesday 8:15pm, UW Stock Pavilion.

Contact: Lady Kenya (Heather Cushing) 298-0103, evilkenya@tds.net

Needlearts Tuesdays 7:30. Call for location

Contact: Lady Helena Caxton (Sara Andrews) 414-507-5872, lostvirtue76@yahoo.com

Pottery Guild First or second Monday (alternating with Clothier's), Fired Up Pottery.

Contact: Annora (Wendy Nelson) 438-6530, wendybyrd42@yahoo.com

Rapier Practice Wednesday 6:30-9PM, UW Stock Pavilion

Contact: Cosimo de Cellini (Joe Ordaz) 274-0997, jordaz@netzero.com

Social Practice Wednesday 9PMish. Call to verify location

Contact: HE Eithni (Jean Hetzel) 628-7782

Thrown Weapons Sundays Noon, Second Wednesdays 7PM, UW Stock Pavilion.

Contact: John "Jack" Bartholomew of Flanders (David Thompson-Hall) 257-1082

Vocal Music Thursdays 7 PM UW Campus—Check TITU

Contact: Lady Aliénor Hathaway (Mariessa Dobrick) 658-8941, reesa83@aol.com

EPISTLE FROM THE BARONESS

Greetings unto the Populace of Jararvellir from Eithni ingen Talorgain!

By the time you read this missive, the Yule Moot will have taken place. I hope that many of you were able to join us and that the temperatures have begun to rise! There is no time like the depths of a cold winter to enjoy the warmth of good friends and laughter!

Another opportunity to gather together with our friends and neighbors will soon be upon us, and the warmth won't only be from the companionship! On January 31st, Jara will be hosting "It's Only a Flesh Wound" - a full day of armored combat fighting and related arts at the Jefferson County Fairground. This year we will be having a special guest lecturer - Duke Paul of Belatrix! More information is available at: <http://www.jararvellir.org/OnlyAFleshWound2.php> Fighters grab your armor and come out to take advantage of this midwinter fighting opportunity! Non-fighters, grab a project and join me in stitching and watching the fun!

The following weekend will be the Canton's annual winter event, That Moot Thingy. As usual, the event will feature an "indoor camping" theme, with games and fighting all day long and feasting and sleepover fun in the evening. I hope that you can join us!

A bit further in the future, but quickly approaching, is an opportunity to enjoy a different sort of warmth. Gulf Wars will be calling from the Southern Lands, and our King and Queen have called their forces south. While I will be unable to join them this year, I hope you will be able to do so! Gulf Wars always has a lot to offer, whether you be interested in fighting, classes, shopping, or meeting new folks from across the Knowne World.

Shortly on the heels of that War we will be hosting Coronation right here in Jararvellir! Both the incoming and outgoing Crown are from Jara, so it will be a special treat to host this celebration in the Barony. In addition to the usual joys of the day, Iohanna has come up with an interesting new feast challenge. She will provide a basic feast menu to all the feasters, but other guest feastocrats will create special dishes for the head table and whoever the head table chooses to share the special

dishes with. Please contact Iohanna (rtturner@library.wisc.edu) for details and the full rules, but I encourage anyone interested in late-period feasts to contact her and take part in this exciting challenge and special way to celebrate the day.

Many wishes for warmth, safe travel, and fun in these coming months!

Yours in Service,

eithni

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

WW (Æsa): This is the last time I will come to the meeting to discuss last year's proceeds! We made about \$4500 in profit last year. At a previous meeting, we agreed to reserve \$950 to upgrade the showers, give \$1000 to Boscobel as a donation, and split the remainder with Nordskogen. Nordskogen passed a different resolution (taking the \$950 from next year's WW budget) and giving approximately \$1700 to each Barony. Do we want to confirm this alternative? **[Meeting approved revised allotment of the proceeds]** I will be putting out calls for staff positions for the upcoming WW soon.

It's Only A Flesh Wound (Stephen): As a point of clarification, my household is sponsoring Duke Paul's appearance (not the Barony) so we don't need to worry about how his expenses are being covered. I do need to get into the storage shed to get at the list stuff. I've got the prizes and medallions coming in for the tourneys.

We would like to do a GPS raffle (like they did - sort of - at Boars Head). To make this more legal, the GPS would be donated to the Barony, the Barony would hold the raffle (we have a raffle license), and the Barony would donate the proceeds from the raffle to the travel fund. **[Meeting approved the decision to host the raffle]**

There is also an A&S competition/display. All entries must somehow be connected to armored combat whether it is a piece of armor or a scroll blank with a fighter on it, etc.

<http://www.jararvellir.org/OnlyAFleshWound2.php>

EVENTS

OUT AND ABOUT

For more information visit the individual group's website (accessed from <http://www.northshield.org/Events/List.aspx>).

February 2009

6-8—That Moot Thingy/Rumble in the Forest 3, **Coille Stoirmeil** (Tomah WI)

14—Tournament of Chivalry/Windhaven Investiture, **Windhaven** (Fond du Lac WI)

March 2009

28—Haire Affaire of the Heart, **Falcon's Keep** (Wausau WI)

April 2009

4—Spring Coronation, **Jararvellir** (Madison WI)

May 2009

16—Beltaine by the Bay, **Darkstone** (Ashland WI)

29-31—**Mermaid's XVI—Sweet 16 Coming Out Party**, Turm an dem See (Valders WI)

LOCAL NEWS

STOCK PAVILION SCHEDULE

We have the Stock Pavilion for all of our accustomed times through April, except for March 8th, 11th, 15th, and April 26th. As always, the full schedule (and the new waiver) can be found at:

<http://www.ansci.wisc.edu/Facilities/stockp.htm>

it's only A FLESH wound

31 January 2009

Jefferson County Fair Park ,

503 North Jackson Ave., Jefferson, WI 53549

Gate opens at 8:00am

Site closes at 9:00pm

Site Fees: Adults \$8.00 5-12: \$3.00 Under 5: Free

Non Member Surcharge will apply No Pre-Registration

Site is handicap accessible.

Food is available for purchase on site from vendor

Co-Autocrat: Lady Kristyan Applegate(Kristen Bird)
764 Topeka Dr
Lake Mills, WI 53551
(715) 760-0603 kristyanapplegate@gmail.com
Co-Autocrat and MIC: HRH Stephen du Bois (Stephen Ward)
5105 Wallace Ave
Monona WI 53716
(608) 886-3909 polearm1@gmail.com

First tourney will start PROMPTLY at 10:00. Authorizations are at 9:00 and by appointment only through the Marshal in charge. Showers also available on site.

Tourneys:

Atlantian Speed Tourney (unbelts)
Banner Bearer Tourney
Great Axe
Great Sword
Florentine
Mixed Weapons
3 person melee (only 1 member of the Chivalry per team)

Special Guest: Duke Paul.

We are excited to announce that Duke Paul of Bellatrix will be in attendance. We are all honored to have him visit and teach:

Great Weapons 2hrs
Perception Movement and Rythmic Slow work 2hrs
Question and answer session

First class will start at 10

It's Only A Flesh Wound (Kristyan): There will be lots of fighting, but there will be other activities as well. We are planning on holding a silent auction (but we need items for it — please donate!). The proceeds from the auction are going to the travel fund. We will also have an A&S competition (with divisions for live performance as well as non-performance arts). The only requirement is that the A&S submission must be connected with the topic of combat.

Coronation (Kristyan): We are looking for all types of help with Coronation. Please let me know if you want to help.

Coronation Feast (Iohanna): We are holding an A&S/cooking competition at the feast at Coronation [see later in the *Skein* for details]. If you have any questions/concerns about the rules, contact me for an explanation. I don't want anyone to be discouraged from considering taking part.

Clothiers Guild (Iohanna): Clothiers guild will be starting up again a week from this Monday (i.e., on 1/26).

Chronicler (Paul): All Skein subscriptions have run out. If you would like to subscribe in 2009, please contact me now.

Historian (Josceline for Adrian): A few months ago, Adrian announced that he was looking for a replacement. The only person who expressed interest was Paul Wickenden (who is quite enthusiastic about the position) and Adrian is nominating him. **[We will vote on this at the March meeting]**

Chatelaine (Ivan for Wren): Wren wants to step down and is formally nominating Eliane to replace her. **[We will vote on this at the March meeting]**

Demo Coordinator (Ivan for Annora): The Cub Scouts in Middleton have contacted us and asked if we would do a demo (we have done demos for them before). It will have a martial component, but we could do other things. The proposed dates are 3/19 or 4/16 (both Thursdays). Annora will be posting to the List for help.

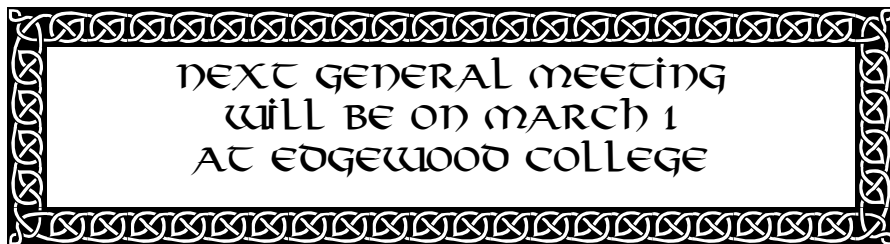
UW Reservations (Ivan for Amy): We had a snafu with our student group registration and lost our Union reservations. One of our official student reps was disqualified by the Student Org office. This

happened while Amy was out of town and she was not aware of the problem. She is going to straighten this out (among the questions: Do dissertating students count as half-time students? How public is the info about who is an official rep in the organization?). As a result of her meetings, she may be looking for new student org contacts. If you are a greater-than-half-time student at UW, please let us know. We may need you. In the meantime, we are not sure when we can get rooms for Memorial Union but Amy will attempt to get new reservations set up tomorrow and will update the List.

Archers' Brunch (Sol): The next Archers' Brunch will be on February 15 at Deuces.

Seneschal (Ivan): The next General Meeting will be on March 1st.

Pursuivant (Kristyan): My heraldry report is in.



CORONATION FEAST COMPETITION

Spring Coronation Feast will be held in Jararvellir on April 4, 2009. As Head Cook, I would like to try something a little different and provide a venue for lots of people to redact, cook, and serve tasty and beautiful period food and beverages. This feast will have a limited number of tickets sold (40), plus head table (10). Because people like to know what they are paying for, I will provide a basic set menu. However, for the rest of the feast, I'd like to encourage a friendly competition. The style of the feast will be Tudor, since during that time so many foods and spices were accessible and the nature of the feast was to please the nobility.

Lincoln logs, make up most hands of calligraphy. Next issue I will teach how to write a form of Uncial.

Thank you very much for your interest. I truly hope that I've managed to help you become more interested in Calligraphy and see that it really isn't all that hard or scary and that really it can be fun. Calligraphy can be done alone or with others. If you are interested in learning how to write calligraphy in person, please come on by the Calligrapher and Illumination Guild nights. I am also willing to teach outside of Guild nights for those that are interested but are doing one of the plethora of other activities on Tuesday nights. I can be contacted by e-mail at Mystborne@yahoo.com. Feel free to contact me regarding questions or concerns you run into with your calligraphy practice as well.



The idea is to minimize it and catch it before you smear it. Ink really doesn't erase. It can be scraped off but it can almost never be erased.

Cleaning, Care and Maintenance

Cleaning your nibs is important. Most inks are acidic and will rust your nibs; others have chemicals that will clog your nib once they dry out. In short, just clean your nibs. Take the nib out of the pen holder. Take the nib to a sink and clean the nib with a toothbrush and soap. Liquid soap works just fine. Make sure to clean all parts of the nib and clean the reservoir as well. Rinse the brush and nib. When ink stops coming out you have probably cleaned the nib enough. You can carefully use a paper towel to dry the nib as well so the water doesn't rust the nib either. If you find that your nib isn't coming clean with soap and water, try using alcohol (not wood (rubbing) alcohol but ethanol alcohol).

Once you have a clean nib you will need to protect the nib from being bent or broken. A hard container works very well for this. You can use old Altoid mint boxes, or even plastic Mentos gum containers. I recommend using fishing tackle boxes. They work excellently and are relatively cheap. Art storage boxes are essentially tackle boxes and cost a lot more than a tackle box will. You can also store your ink and pen holders in a tackle box.

Storing ink: If you have inks in your house keep them out of reach of children and pets. You really don't want either to drink your ink. Ink costs good money and you really don't want your children and pets to get poisoned. Just keep the ink out of reach and in a room temperature area. However, if you are transporting ink I recommend a bit more rigor. I keep my ink in two zip lock bags. Put the ink in one bag; get out as much air as you can and then zip it closed. Then put it in another zip lock bag. That way if the first bag leaks you have a second bag to keep the ink from going all over everything.

Conclusion

So far you have learned the language that we use in calligraphy. You have learned the tools calligraphers use as well as what the differences are in the various tools. You've even learned how to write all the basic strokes there are in calligraphy. These basic strokes, like

Competition:

Awards in two categories: Presentation & Taste
Judged by head table, with fabulous prizes

Rules:

1. Each cook (or team) may enter one or two dishes.
2. Each cook (or team) must find the food they will serve forth pleasing to their own palate (both aesthetically and gastronomically).
3. Recipe(s) must be documentable to the 16th century.
4. Recipe(s) must be redacted by the cook and not taken from an already redacted source (assistance with redacting is acceptable).
5. Each dish must be made in sufficient quantity to serve 18-20 people - a taste, not a full meal (if you make a presentation with individual servings, you will need at least 18).
6. Each dish must be presented on two (2) platters. One platter will go to head table (10 servings), and the second platter (at least 8 servings) will go to a table selected by Their Royal Majesties. Should there be more food on the platters than head table and the selected table care to finish, the platters will then circulate to other tables.
7. Each cook (or team) will be required to bring an ingredient list with them to answer any questions there might be during the presentation. Feasters with dietary concerns will be welcome to ask about ingredients, but cooks will not be required to plan for any particular dietary concerns.
8. Teams may include cook(s) and presenter(s); however, there will be a basic format and a 1 minute time limit for presenting dishes.
9. As these dishes will be served as feast for Coronation, there is a budget. Each dish may be reimbursed up to \$20*. However, receipts must be presented to the Head Cook (Iohanna Carracci) on the day of the feast and must abide by the SCA's rules governing purchases (this especially applies to the purchase and production of alcohol).

Deadlines:

A) Each cook (or team) must register with the Head Cook (Iohanna Carracci) by February 15, 2009.

B) Each cook (or team) must submit the original recipe of the dish they plan to prepare and their redaction by March 14, 2009.

Make sure to include a reference to the original source material (cookbook, manuscript, etc.) and why you believe the recipe would have been served in the 16th century.

*If you have a particularly costly ingredient, please contact Iohanna and additional funds may be made available.

FROM THE WEBMINISTER

I made a combat page for the fighters. As always I welcome feedback. Look for it at <http://www.jararvellir.org/combat.php>

The website is almost done now. We just have some new header images to be made when I have time.

The most visited page over the last month was the actual events page for Only a Flesh Wound 2. I know we are all looking forward to the event and having Duke Paul visit us as well.

JAMES

A GENTLE INTRODUCTION TO CALLIGRAPHY (THREE OF AT LEAST A FEW)

by Ian the Green

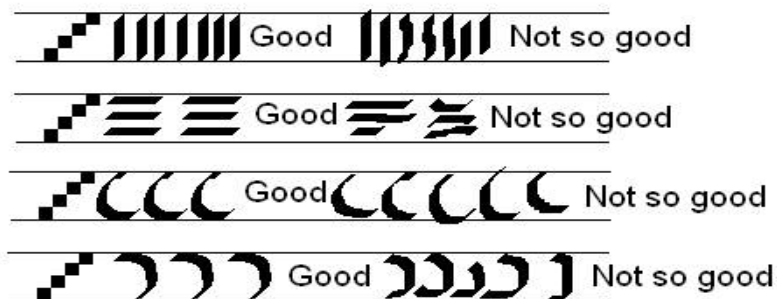
Miscellaneous Advice

Okay so now you can write with a nib and dip ink. You will get a lot of advice in doing calligraphy, as you will in any activity you do in the SCA. Do your best to discern what works best for you. Some of you may be tempted to use **felt tip pens** or what is often called **fiber pens**. I recommend you stay away from them. The cost of a starter calligraphy set is about the same as a pack of calligraphy **fiber pens** so it isn't any cheaper to use **fiber pens**. Yes, they are less messy and if you're traveling and want to practice your calligraphy they're wonderful for use in planes and cars. I have ONE myself for just that purpose. **Fiber pens** over time, a rather short time, break down and don't have the edge to them that calligraphy really takes to make good letters. They will also fade. So my advice is to stick to **dip pens**. Yes, I'm biased and admit that.

You may also want to think about using something called a **cartridge pen**. These look like a normal pen we would use today but with a nib pen tip. Inside are cartridges of ink. For quick work, they're great. However, they generally don't give the crisp lines and corners that dip pens do. Again, I recommend you stick with dip pens. Okay yes, I admit it again, I'm biased.

Practicing

Practicing about 15 minutes a day with just these drills will really go a very long way to you becoming a good calligrapher. Really just 15 minutes a day. That is something you can do on your lunch break or just about any other time of day. It is a very easy to find 15 minutes in a day to practice. Find a calligraphy book or experienced calligrapher to help you start learning how to do a hand of calligraphy.



Attention to detail

Calligraphy is very detail oriented. *Now don't get scared*, I'm not a detail oriented person and I love doing calligraphy. Believe me if I can do it, just about anyone can! It is funny how something small can really change the look of a letter in big way.

When it comes to writing your calligraphy you need to be very neat. If you manage to drop some ink on your paper and not notice it, your hand or sleeve will manage to run into it and smear it everywhere. It is like when you drop your toast, it always has to land butter and jam side down. I've done it. Every calligrapher I know has done it and still does it. That includes Laurels as well as those without their AoA.