

Moonstone



The Province of Malagentia is a local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism. The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) is an inclusive community pursuing research and re-creation of pre-seventeenth century skills, arts, combat and culture. The lives of participants are enriched as we gain knowledge of history through activities, demonstrations, and events. Malagentia is a branch of the East Kingdom, located in Southern Maine. If you are new to the SCA or just want to learn more about this non-profit organization please contact the Chatelaine at chatelaine@malagentia.eastkingdom.org for more information or visit the newcomer's website at eastkingdom.org. Malagentia holds monthly business meetings on the first Thursday of the month virtually. Please visit the website for the meeting link. Please be sure to check the calendar at malagentia.eastkingdom.org/main/calendar for more activities taking place in the province.

Happy 40th Birthday, Malagentia

Foreword by Mat Wyck, Seneschal:

At the November Province meeting, it was noted that this year marks Malagentia's 40th anniversary. We had our first organizational meeting to become a shire in October of 1981. By December 1981, Malagentia was an official group. The Malagentian arms were passed in 1983, and sometime in the mid-1990s, the shire became a province.

To mark this auspicious milestone of 40 years, I reached out to our founding seneschal, the first of many fine people whose shoes I endeavor to fill, to tell us the origin story of Malagentia. What follows is what Baron Deormund Wulfscyld, Malagentia's first seneschal, had to say.

My friend and brother Conall an Doire refers to me as “the father of the feast.” For that I thank him, but the story of Malagentia's origins rests heavily on the generosity and support of others.

I have been fascinated by medieval history as long as I can remember. Robin Hood (the 1939 movie and the British TV series that aired in the '50s) got me into archery at an early age. I have a scar over my left eye from a bout at quarter-staff when I was perhaps 8 years old. I read everything I could find – the Arthurian legends, Howard Pyle, Conan Doyle's Sir Nigel, The Black Arrow. I was introduced to Tolkien in 1965 by an English professor who had known him at Oxford. The hobbit habit hit me hard. I covered my walls with maps and views of Middle Earth and learned to read and write Elvish.

Fast forward to 1974. I was living in Boston when I began reading articles about a group on the West Coast called the Society for Creative Anachronism. These were my sort of people! Ironically I did not learn of Carolingia's existence until after we had moved to Maine two years later. This is what happened: My wife and I were D&D regulars at The Toy Soldier, a gaming shop in Bath. A Carolingian named Ulrich Viking-jaeger dropped in and told us about the East Kingdom. Several of the players decided to found a shire there. We got copies of the Fighter's Handbook and other early SCA guides and set to work. My wife, known as Larissa the Shrew after her D&D character, began churning out garb. One of the partners at the shop, John Wheeler, revealed himself as an expert on medieval music and dance. Another member obtained some scrap steel from the shipyard and constructed helmets. They probably weighed 20 pounds each.

None of this would have been possible without the assistance of the founders of Vinland (based in Rockland). They held our hands throughout the process. Several of us got our fighter cards at one of Vinland's events. That was where we met the then King and Queen, the late Aelfwine Dunadain and Arastorm the Golden. It was there that the idea of a Portland-based shire was born.

Our first event was held at the renaissance-style St. Luke's Cathedral on State St. Aelfwine and Arastorm were gracious enough to attend despite the distance from their home in Vermont. Their presence and the assistance of our friends from Vinland guaranteed our success.

At that point we were a very small group. Larissa cooked and sewed and played recorder. At all of these she excelled. I did a bit of everything else: a little leatherwork, a little armoring, heraldry, calligraphy, event planning and advertising. I fought and held archery practices. I wrote some of the early Moonstones. Charitably I was second-rate at everything except archery. It was simply a lick and a promise until I found people with real talent.

Our meetings were held at The Dragon's Keep, a gaming shop in South Portland. Count Arlof O'Donovae of Aranmor, then just plain Arlof, and his friend Malachi took over the fighting end of things. They also gave us entrée into the College scene at what was then the University of Maine at Portland-Gorham. We attracted a musical group, The Calderwood Consort, and hosted a concert. The Veasslurds were born, we got into fencing, we held an event in a church hall in Falmouth where 'Hole-in-the-Wall' lived up to its name.

I'm afraid I am guilty of the whole "Malagentia" thing – tying our name and history to the story of the Italian navigator Giovanni da Verrazano and the reception he and his crew had from the indigenous people of our area back in 1524. I was made aware of the Verrazano story while working on my history degree and writing freelance articles for the Portland newspapers and Downeast magazine. It was in period and good fun, so I ran with it. The moon was an obvious choice as our emblem. It also appears in my own arms, which show a hand reaching for the moon. This symbolizes The Dream. The purple field ('Malagentian violet') is a convoluted reference to the medical dye gentian violet. I had originally intended that the shire motto be "Cave luna," meaning "beware the moon."

The rest, as they say, is history. After several years I stepped down as seneschal. I was working on two master's degrees and starting a new career in teaching, then took on a second job at LL Bean, so evenings and weekends were full. I maintained my membership but drifted away and became inactive for a number of years.

As before, it was the kindness of others that made the difference. One day I was training my Labrador retriever at Scarboro Fish and Game when I saw a young lady shooting a medieval crossbow. I walked over and said, "SCA?"

Adrienne d'Evreux said, "Mr. Dominic?" Adrienne, a former student of mine at Westbrook High, had joined the Society some time before. She encouraged me to return and see how Malagentia had flourished in the years I had been away. I did, and was - am - overwhelmed. The Province is everything I had dreamed of and more. What I am most impressed by is its inclusivity – a principle I had tried to instill from the outset. Today there is a place for everyone. Each new member (and one very old one!) is made welcome and encouraged to contribute their own special talent and interest.

It was with great sadness that I moved away. Maine winters are more than my wife's health can deal with, and having two homes was no longer an option. The Pandemic made it impossible to visit these last two years, but I certainly hope to maintain the connection by returning for GNEW, at least. Since I have been marooned in Atlantia I have met SCAdians in and around Charleston and Savannah. These two cities are two hours apart, with Beaufort in the middle. As the word returns to normal, I hope to found a group here. It is an ideal site, with a history that goes back to the 1500s when Santa Elena (as it was then known) was the capital of Spanish Florida. Beaufort has a branch of the state university. It is also home to the Marine training center at Parris Island. Perhaps Malagentian history will repeat itself with Ribaut's Folly.

Afterword by Mat Wyck:

Thank you to Baron Deormund for his time and generosity in putting thoughts to paper. But even more so, sincere thanks to him and the others who took this crazy idea and ran with it four decades ago. Thank you to all who have contributed to our own little piece of The Dream over the years, dedicating their time, energy, talent and effort to the common good. Thank you to all who take the seed planted by Deormund and his friends and continue to nurture the amazing forest that has grown.

Forty years. Today, we have well over 100 paid members – and that's in the middle of a pandemic – and hundreds unpaid more who are active and vital, as well. We teach, we learn, we wield pens, bows, rapiers and swords – and so much more. Our community is alive, prosperous and – as Deormund noted – inclusive.

We will make it through these bizarre plague times together. And then we'll see what the next 40 years will bring!

Vivant, Malagentia!!!

2022 Officer Election Information

Hello my fellow Malagentians!

As discussed in at our October and November 2021 province meetings. We will be holding elections for officer positions virtually this year. Due to time constraints there will be a minor change in the notification process and we will not be doing the USPS mailings. We will still be posting to all available online platforms, including our Facebook pages and the official website – which generates an email to those who have signed up for notifications. If you are aware of a paid member not being on any of the platforms, please be to sure let them know how to cast their vote.

Voting will still be done via email to chronicler@malagentia.eastkingdom.org from **12:01 AM December 03 through 11:59 PM December 31**. Please be sure to cast your vote, to include your proof of membership (a picture of your membership card or screenshot from the membership page, please), during this time frame. Results will be announced at the January 06, 2022, province meeting.

As a reminder, the candidates will have an opportunity to speak briefly at the December 02 virtual Province Meeting this week.

These are the candidates for the offices, and write-ins will also be accepted, if they are paid members:

- * Archery Minister – Aloysius Sartore
- * Minister of Arts & Sciences – Mickel von Salm
- * Chatelaine – Collette d'Avignon
- * Chancellor Minor – Marie D'Argincourt
- * Herald – Volmar Sollons
- * Chronicler – Wynefryd Bredthers
- * Exchequer – Shyvan Floyd
- * Knight Marshal – Micah of Brighton Manor
- * Rapier Marshal – Justin Turner
- * Webminister – Tessa Maria da Siena
- * Seneschal – Mat Wyck
- * Minister of the Lists – Bia-Ilulia Baebiana

Thank you for your understanding and please contact myself, or Mat Wyck, with questions or concerns.

In Service,
Shyvan Floyd, Chronicler

Malagentia to Host Preeminent EK Rapier Tourney

Malagentia has been chosen to hold one of the East's most prominent royal progress events - King's and Queen's Champions Rapier Tournament!

This event will take place on Feb. 12, 2022, at the First Baptist Church in Portland (360 Canco Road.) Colonel Christian Woolfe is the event steward, with Mistress Molly Schofield and Sir Ivan Ulricson serving as his deputies.

We are in the process of organizing our staff now; please reach out to Col. Woolfe (rtupper1@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping - and we will need a lot of help in set-up, gate/COVID screening, meal distribution, clean-up, etc., not to mention royal retainers and all the fun stuff that goes along with a royal progress!

This is an excellent chance for all of our region's fencers to shine - but beyond that, for Malagentia to shine. This is a significant event, our first royal progress since GNE of 2019. Let's all come together to help make this a wonderful success.

More information on the tourney, including pre-registration links, can be found at the EK events website, or by going to the event announcement here: <https://www.eastkingdom.org/event-details/?eid=3780>



The upcoming tourney will be indoors, but the action will be just as on-point as this exchange at a recent outdoor practice!

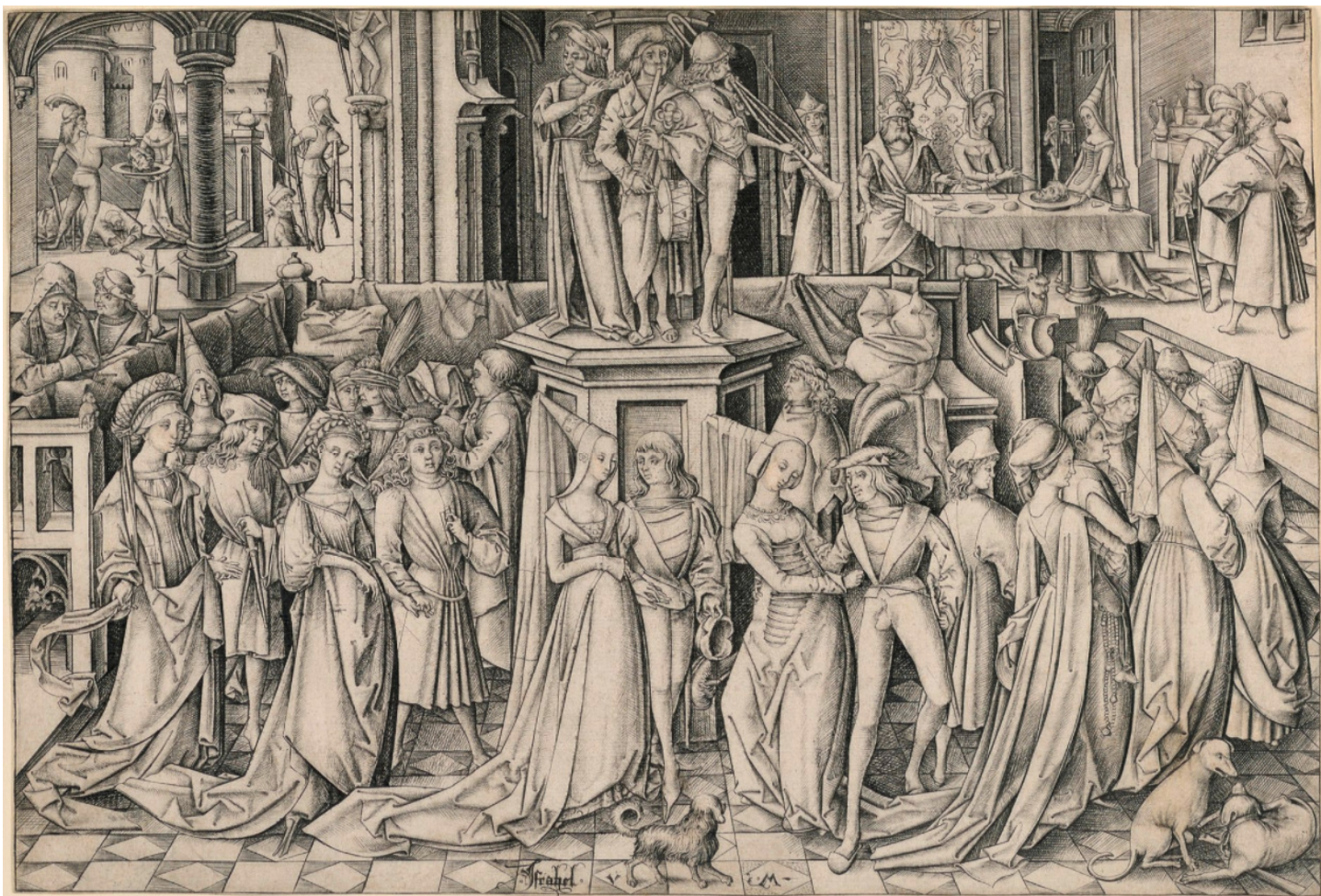
Photo by Mat Wyck

Malagentia's dance practice returns!

The land of the Bad People might not be the first place one thinks of when one considers the SCA's genteel pursuit of period courtly and country dances. However, we have an enthusiastic core of participants who enjoy the opportunity to bransle and almayn and piva and hay, both at events and at practices. From Domenico to Playford, the dance masters' choreographies come back to life.

Please join us! Our renaissance dance practice (affectionately known as RenDance) occurs on the second Thursday of each month, from 7:00-9:00pm, in Gorham at the Fellowship Hall of the First Congregational Church. No prior experience is required; we teach as we go along. Comfortable footwear is recommended; the dances, though low-impact, involve walking patterns around the floor and occasional movements on the balls of the feet. Some dances involve set numbers of people in each grouping, others are open to any number; everyone gets an opportunity to cycle in or sit back and observe.

For more information, contact Mickel at: mickelvonsalm@yahoo.com



Dance at Herod's Court, an [engraving](#) by [Israhel van Meckenem](#), c. 1490

Greetings Malagentia!

Have you ever wanted to create beautiful art? Make scrolls for the Kingdom? Write elegant calligraphy? Just learn how to paint bugs? Scribal classes are once again up and running! Every month, third Thursday (that's December 16, January 20, and February 17 upcoming...), from 7-9 PM at the fellowship hall of the First Parish Congregational Church in Gorham. We met in October with mostly experienced scribes and made a great big list of what we are going to teach in the coming months, and last session we had 4 brand new scribes attend and pick up a brush for the very first time, as well as a few experienced folks. Newly-minted-Maunches Tiffan Fairamay and Collette d'Avignon have taken over the bulk of the teaching and are doing a wonderful job!

We will have beginner classes as well as advanced, illumination instruction. There will also be guidance and instruction for those that want to focus only on calligraphy and not worry about that crazy paint stuff. Next month we'll be looking at scribal supplies and what the basics are to build out your Scribal kit and working on whitework to make the little sample sheets everyone painted last session sparkle!




I firmly believe that anyone can paint. Anyone can create beautiful art. You don't have to have experience or any artistic talent at all. Tracing is absolutely done and encouraged until (and even after) you get some experience. Enthusiasm and a willingness to learn and create is all you need. Class supplies are available for everyone. Come join us and create art!

I am super excited to be meeting in person once again, and can't wait to see what the next generation of Malagentian Scribes create!

In Service,
Camille des Jardins, OL
179047@members.eastkingdom.org

Upcoming Events



DECEMBER 2021

Saturday 4th	<u>Bergental/BBM Yule</u>	Barony of Bergental - Springfield, MA	
Saturday 11th	<u>Bhakail Yule</u>	Barony of Bhakail - Philadelphia, PA 19123, PA	 
Saturday 11th	<u>Bridge Birthday</u>	Barony of the Bridge - North Kingstown, RI	
Saturday 11th	<u>Winter in the North Country</u>	Shire of Glenn Linn - Lake Luzerne, NY	

JANUARY 2022

Saturday 8th	<u>Acre Coronation</u>	Kingdom of Acre - Sayreville, NJ	
Saturday 8th	<u>East Kingdom Twelfth Night</u>	Shire of Panther Vale - Barre , VT	
Saturday 22nd	<u>Bellringer's</u>	Barony of Carillion - Manalapan, NJ	
Saturday 29th	<u>Deck the Halls of Valhalla</u>	Canton of Brokenbridge - Brooklyn, NY	
Sunday 30th	<u>East Kingdom Curia (Ethereal)</u>	Kingdom of the East - Your Town, MA	

FEBRUARY 2022

Saturday 5th	<u>Midland Vale Turns Five! A Shire's Birthday Celebration</u>	Shire of Midland Vale - Port Jervis, NY	
Saturday 12th	<u>King's and Queen's Rapier Championship</u>	Province of Malagentia - Portland , ME	
Saturday 19th - Sunday 20th	<u>Aedult Swim 2022</u>	Kingdom of Æthelmarc - Milton, PA	
Saturday 26th	<u>Ice Weasel 16: Sweet 16 and Never Been...Frostbit!</u>	Barony of Smoking Rocks - fall River, MA	

Full event listings and descriptions available at eastkingdom.org/events/

Officers

Seneschal - Lord Mat Wyck

Chatelaine - Lady Collette d'Avignon

Archery Marshal - Lord Aloysius Sartore

Chronicler - Lady Shyvan Floyd

Exchequer - Mistress Molly Schofield

Herald - Master Alexandre St. Pierre

Knight Marshal - Lord Matthew MacGyver

Minister of Arts & Science - Lord Nicol mac Donnachaidh

Minister of the Lists - Propreatrix Ilulia Baebiana

Quartermaster - Master Samuel Peter DeBump

Rapier Marshal - Lord Mat Wyck

Web Minister - Lady Tessa Maria da Siena

Chancellor Minor - Vacant

Ridings

Giggleswick - Seneschal Master Steffen Of Silverforge

Ravensbridge - Seneschal Lord Aloysius Sartore

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For the most up-to-date Provincial information, please visit the website and calendar.