



The Moonstone

Autumn 2024

AS LIV

Volume 42, Issue 4



Photo by Jonas

Dear Malagentia.

As I sit to reflect on 2024 in Malagentia and the East and on what 2025 may hold, my thoughts turn to change and evolution and, naturally, Crown.

We in the East are boldly stepping forward with a Spring Crown Tourney to be fought with rapier weapon forms. When I consider Malagentia and not only our skilled and dedicated fencers but the vast number of involved volunteers at every level of the Province and Kingdom, I know beyond a doubt that we will play a large part in this historic event. Whether it be competing in the lists, running them, marshaling or doing any of the hundreds things needed to make this work – Malagentia will be there.



Photo by Mat

How do I know? Look at how active we were over the last year. Every week we had opportunities to gather and build our community. It wasn't just the weekly martial practice, but dance practice, scribal, craft nights, game nights, Cooks' Guild outings and feasts and Foresters' Guild romps through the wilds. We opened our lands to all for Otzi's, Spring's Inspirations, Test Kitchen, GNE and more. We had something for folks to do pretty much all year long, no matter their interests.

Our folks were recognized throughout the land for their work in arts & sciences, service and martial endeavors with Armigerous awards, High Merit awards and Peerages. And rightfully so.

This all sets us up well for 2025 and beyond.

2025 also marks the second year of service for our new officers who stepped up last January. We'll be holding elections at the end of the coming year and will be voting on new slate of candidates (by the way, our Riding of Ravensbridge just elected their new officers – vivat to all and see the story below).

Please consider stepping up to volunteer in our many endeavors, or even as an officer. While it may seem the Province runs on Max & Mickel's coffee (sorry Dunkin' ...), it's actually volunteerism that make us go.

Looking forward to working with you all – and happy holidays!

Wyck

From the Chronicler:



Dear Malagentia,

As I sit here putting together our Autumn issue (yes, in December...I like lookbacks, okay?), I find myself no little awed by what a year it's been. From our new officers—many taking on a Provincial role for the very first time!—to the return of favourite events and the celebrating of our new Provincial Champions, it's been non-stop from start to finish. The coming months don't show any signs of slowing down either, with big changes on the horizon, both locally and for the Society as a whole.

But while those changes loom large, for now I turn my thoughts inward, to the quiet dark that comes at the end of the year, along with some of the best moments of comfort and cosiness in our community included in these pages. Thank you to all those who have donated their time and words and images to the newsletter. As always, if you have anything you'd like to see or contribute to future issues, please send me a note at chronicler@eastkingdom.malagentia.org.

I'll leave y'all with a beautiful piece of art from our own Danielle of Ravensbridge, inducted earlier this year into Their Majesties' Order of the Tyger's Cub. May it remind us all that the days are once more growing longer and the light is on its way.

In service to community,

Aesa



Art by Danielle of Ravensbridge

Photo by Amée

Officers

Seneschal:

Mat Wyck (He/Him)

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Chatelaine:

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Webminister

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Exchequer

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Knight Marshal

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Fencing Marshal

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Archery

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Thrown Weapons Marshal

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Welcome to New Officers!

The Ravensbridge Edition

by Aloysius Sartor, outgoing Seneschal



We had a small but fruitful gathering on

December 19th, 2024 (with a pot luck that proved plentiful and delicious!) to hold our usual monthly meeting, discuss current SCA events, share officer reports and hold an election for the offices of the Riding. After a round of voting and counting, we have the following officers elected for 2025 - 2026:

Seneschal — Amée le Mort

seneschal@ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org

Exchequer — Magnus Surtsson

exchequer@ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org

Chatelaine — Dyrfinna Gregsdottir

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Chronicler — Sigrida Arnisdottir

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A&S — Edward McGyver Dos Scorpus

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Herald — Margaret Loftus of Govan

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Webminister — Aloysius Sartor

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Knight Marshal — Hesychia of Ravensbridge

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Captain of Fence — Magnus Morte

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Captain of Thrown — John Carpenter

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Captain of Archery — Magnus Surtsson

archery@ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org

My thanks to all the officers who've served the Riding, and Malagentia proper, and thanks to everyone who's been playing with us over the last four years, it's been a blast, even with the plague. All of us together are what makes this game of ours fun and worthwhile. It would be a lot more difficult each by ourselves, and probably look a lot stranger to people not playing.

Keep doing the things, just as I will be. See you all soon, somewhere, down the road. I can barely wait.

-Aloysius

([soon-to-be] former) Seneschal, Riding of Ravensbridge in the Province of Malagentia

*Interested in learning more about the people and Offices mentioned here? Or perhaps about the Province and the Ridings of Ravensbridge and Giggleswick in general? You can find information on all the above and more at the **East Kingdom Wiki** page (wiki.eastkingdom.org) or at any of the official Province/Riding websites:*

Malagentia: malagentia.eastkingdom.org

Ravensbridge: ravensbridge.eastkingdom.org

Giggleswick: giggleswick.eastkingdom.org

What Have We Been Up To: Harvests, Forts, Demos and More

With a bit of fuel and a little motivation, it's easily possible to hit an event every week during the autumn months, as the East Kingdom crams in nearly every kind of activity they can think of before winter hits. But why travel, when our own Province has so much to offer locally? Here's a bit of what's been happening since the last issue:



A Province represented

Photo by v

Harvest Moon

Held on the site of our own Great Northeastern War, Harvest Moon plays host to a much smaller crowd as Malagentia gathers under the changing leaves for a day of community and good-natured competition to name our new Provincial Champions.

As per custom, our outgoing Champions were tasked with arranging the challenges in their respective fields, and they rose to the occasion with creativity and aplomb. While friendly rivalry and intense match-ups abound, these displays of martial, ranged and A&S prowess also highlight conduct and comportment, bringing out the best in us, Champions or no.

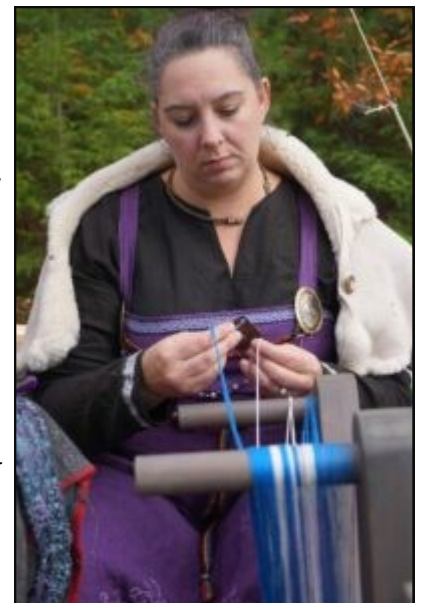
Congratulations to this year's new Provincial Champions, including several new titles added to the roster:

- **Artisan Prime of Malagentia** (A&S)
Cailte Crobdurg Mac Scandal
- **Bearer of the Heart of Malagentia** (Thrown)
Richard Crowe
- **First Shield of Malagentia** (Armoured)
Micah of Brighton Manor
- **Bearer of the Horn of Malagentia** (Archery)
Magnus Surtsson
- **First Blade of Malagentia** (Rapier)
Aurelia Colleoni a'Buccafurno
- **Adult of Last Resort** (C&T)
Trian o'Bruadair
- Winner of the **Duckal Challenge** (Rapier)
Rwuan Osbern

Whether you were there to compete, to spectate, or just to visit with friends on a beautiful day and enjoy Frances Hastings' delectable "New World taco bar" dayboard, it was a great day all around. Vivant to all!

Burgundar Faire Demo

As a volunteer run non-profit organisation, new people are the lifeblood of the Society. And what better way to attract new interest and show people what we have to offer than a public demo?



Lydia at her web

Photo by Mat

Held at a LARP (live action roleplay) adventure site up in Harrison, Maine, the Burgundar Faire is an

opportunity for anyone interested to come and learn more about LARP groups across the state, including Hearthlight, Star Hunter and, of course, our own Society for Creative Anachronism. Malagentia showed up to talk with the crowds and answer questions while offering demonstrations on weaving, cooking, blacksmithing, fencing, woodworking and more.



Malagentia's demo setup

photo by Mat

It was a great opportunity to not only interact with the public and show them what we're about, but also connect with the Maine LARP community. Thanks to Azzura Acquati for acting as liaison and getting us organized, as well as to everyone who participated. We had some new people attending practices and A&S nights in the weeks after, so we can count this one as a success!



Photo by Aesa

Fort Foster/ Williams Practices

One of the great things about Maine is the absolute plethora of options we have to enjoy our beautiful state and its miles of

coastline. With just a little pre-planning, we're able to host weekend gatherings and practices at outdoor historical sites along the ocean, whether because of holiday interference, or just because we want to. Earlier in November, we held an outdoor fencing practice at Fort Foster in Kittery, Maine, which allowed for melees, silly bridge battles and, most importantly, some extremely dramatic fencing by the sea. What else could you ask for?

How about even more fencing at Fort Williams? Due to holiday scheduling, our normal Tuesday practice was cancelled on Christmas Eve, so another was held in its place in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. With a glowing fire and dazzling views, not even the snow could keep Malagentia away. And while we missed those laid low by holiday illnesses, we appreciate your consideration in staying home!



The beginnings of a laden table

photo by Aesa

Cooks' Guild Potluck

Have you been to one of the Cooks' Guild meetups, yet? If not, please consider this your open and ongoing invitation to join us as we gather to swap recipes, research and most importantly—food. This past December, the Guild gathered at a private residence in Litchfield, Maine for an optionally

garbed potluck. This time, the focus was on food either familiar to your persona, or switch it around and come garbed in the period based on what you cooked. Offerings included Irish soda bread, cremoneze green tart, beef and barley stew, homemade pasta with carrot sauce, a saffron pastry Coffyn of Three Beasts, smoked fish and pickled vegetables, lamb stew, springerle cookies, pomegranate salad and so, so much more.

Coming up, the Guild plans to host a soup swap, a sweets exchange and a Gothic focused “death dinner.” You don’t need to be a Guild member to join in. You don’t even need to know how to cook (though a willingness to wash a dish or two never hurts)! The Cooks’ Guild welcomes anyone with an interest in period cooking and needs eaters just as much as cooks. Seriously. We all only know how to cook for a dozen or more each, so you can imagine what it looks like when you put a group of us together. In the meantime, we’ll leave you with one of the recipes that appeared at the potluck.



A joyous and successful repast

photo by Aesa

Cremoneze Green Tart

Adapted from a 16th century French recipe, this is a variation on a spinach tart, lightened by a good amount of fresh mint with dried red currants added for a bit of sweetness.

To make a cremoneze green tart, take spinach & put it to boil & chop it fine, & a handful of chopped mint, with 2 ounces of grated parmesan, four ounces of melted butter, three ounces of sugar, two ounces of currants, two raw eggs, a quarter ounce of cinnamon, two nutmegs, & make the tart like the others, & sugar thereon & serve it so.

-From Overture de Cuisine

Ingredients:

- 1/2 pound spinach, washed and chopped*
- 1/2 cup of mint, finely chopped
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 4 Tbsp. butter, melted
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 2 Tbsp. dried currants
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/8 tsp. nutmeg
- 1 pie crust, unbaked**

Method:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Combine ingredients in a bowl and mix well until everything is coated thoroughly with egg. Pour*** into an unbaked pie shell and bake for approximately 45 minutes, until a knife or skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.

Let cool completely, then serve cold or at room temperature.

**the original recipe says to boil the spinach, but I've found it's better to put it in uncooked. It'll soften down nicely while baking.*

***can be made using gluten free crusts, consider reducing the sugar if using one that's already sweetened.*

****more like spread—it's a very thick mixture, don't be alarmed.*

Words from the Green

by Sulicena Filia Vassurae



Photo by Aesa

As winter sets in, the woods and wetlands of Malagentia are growing quiet in some ways. Many birds have returned to the south. I'm no longer seeing osprey or turkey vultures, the morning bird song is much reduced, and the cricket sounds of evening feel like a distant memory. The chipmunks are tucked in with their caches, and the other small tunneling mammals must be eagerly awaiting a good snow so they can resume more protected forays.

It's easy for me to get consumed by indoor projects this time of year. Processing materials I foraged in the autumn, or finishing up medicinal preparations started in summer when everything was ripe and full. There are acorns to shell and grind into flour, oils and tinctures to strain and bottle, or turn into salves and creams, and bark and plant fiber to clean and prepare for making baskets, cords, and string. All that potential of summer and autumn seems to be asking to be sorted and put away, to be made ready and available for future inspiration.

I know many crave the sun's return, and the longer hours of daylight. I truly love the dark seasons. This year, I've been savoring the quiet, early dusk and long dark evenings. Either tucking into my own nest early, or enjoying the opportunity to work on a passion project late into the night. Is it 7:30, or is it 12:45? Who knows!

If I remember to bundle up and get myself

outside there's actually so much going on. The loons and diving ducks are back and chatty in the mouth of the river near my home. Each new snow is a super fun opportunity to follow animal tracks and be curious about who's out there and what they are up to. Right now I'm wondering if we'll get enough deep cold before the next snows to have a chance to ice skate on wild water this year.

And fortunately, one of my favorite foraged treats is still available this time of year. Here's a recipe for soda made from white pine needles. I usually wait for ice or wind storms to knock down branches, but if these beautiful trees are abundant where you live, maybe you can beg a branch from them to make it anytime.

Eastern White Pine Needle Soda:

Put 1 cup fresh pine needles into a sterilized 16 ounce Grolsch style bottle. Include the whole tassels with a bit of the stem to help with fermentation. Add 2 tablespoons sugar or raw honey to the bottle and cover with 1 ½ cup filtered water, leaving 1 to 2 inches of headspace at the top. Close the lid and shake the bottle to distribute the honey.

Place the bottle in a warm place to ferment. A kitchen counter usually works well. The soda should start fermenting and producing carbonation after 2 - 3 days. Be careful opening the bottle, and if you leave them to ferment longer than 3 days, burp the bottles to release the pressure. Strain and serve over ice with a slice of lemon, lime, or orange if you like. Pine soda tastes a lot like Sprite. Any edible conifer needles (pine, fir, spruce) can be used for making this soda.

Sulicena filia Vassurae lives in coastal Malagentia and serve as Keeper for the Forest of Malagentia for the East Kingdom Royal Foresters Guild. We are an A&S guild that studies outdoor living, survival, camping, and more. All are welcome at the activities we organize. More information about the guild in general can be found at:

<https://ekfg.eastkingdom.org/>

Recipe from www.growforagecookferment.com

VIVANT!

Once again, members of our fair Province have shown themselves worthy and deserving of recognition across these Eastern lands, and thusly have appeared before Their August Majesties to be lauded so that all might know of their deeds. In summation of these Royal Decrees:

In the Barony of Stonemarche, amid the sounds of birds and bards that accompany Harper's Retreat, His Majesty Magnus Tindal, Sovereign and His Majesty G. Emerson True, Consort, requested before Them the presence of **Stefania l'Huissier Leatherfoot**, of whose acts and service They had heard much of, and did at that time **award her Arms** to be borne by her and her alone. Such awarding was accompanied by a scroll done by Quentus Quintilius Mortis, words by Mat Wyck.

Their Majesties then summoned no fewer than three members of Malagentia to receive accolades for their continued and ongoing service to the Crown and Kingdom. Thus was **Colette de Herrison** inducted into the **Order of the Silver Wheel**, commemorated by a scroll by Irin Bryn de Luna, as was **Slaine an Doire** similarly inducted and

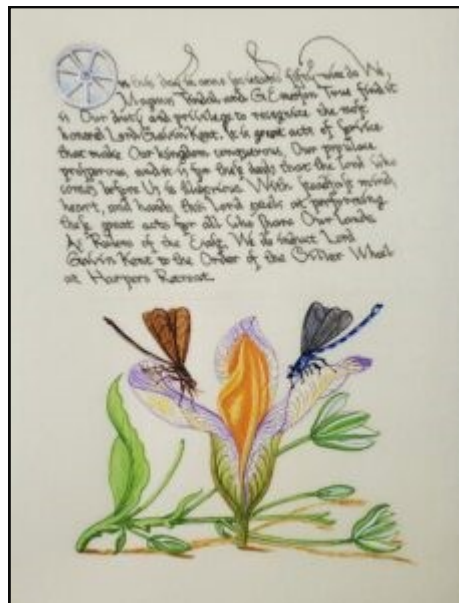


Photo by Camille

Rwuan Osbern did appear before Their Majesties, who recounted tales of his exploits on the rapier field and bade him join Their **Order of the Silver Rapier**, with scroll done

presented with a scroll done by the hand of Embla Knutrrottir. Finally, to complete the Order, **Gavin Kent** was summoned and added to their ranks, with scroll by Camille des Jardins.

Shortly after,

by Fionna the Volatile, with words by Bo of Malagentia.

And following—for the service and hard work of Malagentia is well known and highly regarded—

Their Majesties did invite into Their Court **Olalla Tristana**. There, for her valued contributions to the ongoing accessibility of the Society, did They induct her into Their **Order of the Silver Crescent**, noted



Photo by Tola

in a scroll by Tola Knytr. Alongside her, for her own good work in kitchens, scribal desks and steward positions across the East, was **Octavia Valeria** likewise inducted into said Order and presented with a scroll by Caitriona inghean Ui Shiodhachain.

Their Majesties had one further order of



Photo by Azzura

business with Malagentia, however as she could not be present on the day itself, **Azzura Acuqati** was called before witnesses on Their Majesties behalf, and was presented with a document by Quentus Quintilius Mortis and signed by Their hands,

inducting her into the **Order of the Silver Brooch** for her work in turning leather and metals into art.

As Their reign came to its natural end, Their Majesties had two final acts that They would see done in Their Last Court. First was **Rory of**



Malagentia called before Them and for fulfilling the tenants of valor, courtesy and honour on the youth martial field, was named among the ranks of the **Order of Gawain** and presented with a box made

by Christine Violette. In further celebration of the Society's youth, the presence of **Penelope of Malagentia** was requested, who was, for exemplifying service and the qualities so desired by the Kingdom, awarded the **Tyger's Eye** and given a token in commemoration.

Later that same day, having ascended to their place upon the Tyger Thrones, Their Majesties King Matthew des Arden and Queen Fiamuin Kareman called forth **Colette de Herrison**, and for her service to the Crown in myriad ways, including needle and thread, did first award her a token of the **Rabbit in the Moon** and immediately after name her **Seamstress to the Crown**. Similarly was **Thallos of Brighton Manor** called forth before the Court and honoured likewise as **Seamstress to the Crown**.

Having further business with members of the Province, the presence of **Fayette des Rothenburg** was requested, and for her many and varied accomplishments in the field of arts, she was then inducted into the **Order of the Silver Brooch**, commemorated in a scroll done by Embla Knutrdottir, with words by Bo of Malagentia.

Next was another group commanded to appear before Their Majesties, for Malagentia is known not just for service and prowess and art, but also the manner and comportment with which those things are accomplished. Thusly, Her Majesty Fiamuin did see before Her **Richard Crowe**, **Andromeda Sophronios** and **Tiernan Shepherd**, and for their long-time embodiment of the fine

qualities recognised by the East, presented all three with the token inducting them into the **Consort's Order of Courtesy**. Finally, as the day drew to a close, Their Majesties decided Their business could not be completed without one further act of recognition. His Majesty Matthew summoned into His presence **Edward Mac Guyver dos Scopus** and did present him with His **Sovereign's Award of Esteem**.

In the Shire of Mountain Freehold, Their Majesties held a great tournament by which to choose Their Heirs for the coming year. But in addition to such martial business, They also held a Court at which they called forth **Aloysius Sartor**, and before all did present him with a **Writ** to attend and sit in contemplation of whether he would join the **Order of the Pelican**, a question to be answered at A Market Day at Birka in the Barony of Stonemarche this coming January.

Finally, in the far Southern Shire of Rusted Woodlands, Their Majesties bade **Aesa Ormstunga** present themselves at the 100 Minutes War, where they were commanded by **Writ** to attend Them at Mudthaw in the Barony of Settmour Swamp and give answer whether they would join the **Order of Defense**.

Any mistakes or misinformation included in these pages are the sole responsibility of the Chronicler, and my most sincere apologies if anyone was omitted in error. Should any of the information here be incorrect, please feel free to reach out to

chronicler@malagentia.eastkingdom.org, and I'll make corrections as soon as possible.

And Now For Something a Little Different...

It's come to my attention that while the pages of our newsletter are chock full of the accomplishments and goings-on of our Province members, I've been remiss in recognising those who put in hours upon hours of unspoken, un-lauded service to keep those Province members going, some dedicating nearly their entire lives in support.

I'm talking, of course, about the **Pets of Malagentia**. Please join me in appreciating the small, furry companions who also enjoy the occasional SCA activity. (Look, it's the end of the year and y'all put me in charge of this newsletter, this is what you get)



Photo by Olalla

Brioche gets her excellent sense of style from Olalla.
"You GARB Brioche? You garb Brioche like the peasant??"



Photo by Mat

Faithful hound Plankton (much missed), incredibly unimpressed by Mat's attempt to insulate him against the winter.



Photo by Aesa

Lydia's little weaving assistant, who definitely never causes any problems ever.

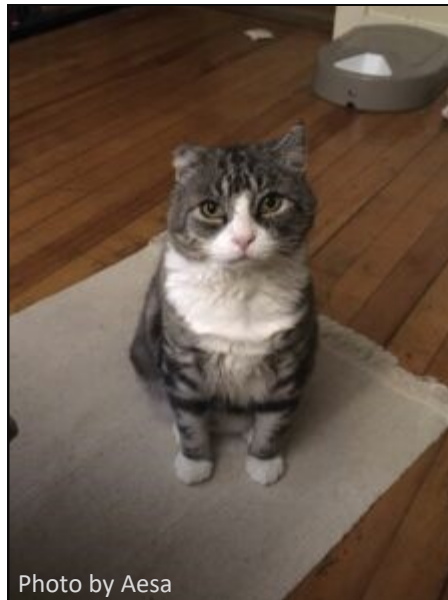


Photo by Aesa

Mushroom is a simple cat.
Likes: Aesa
Dislikes: Anyone not Aesa



Photo by Esben

Yeetly the ~~slinky~~ ferret, hoping to catch a lift with Esben and Azzura to the next event.



Photo by Mat

The late, great Pancake, who has opinions about Noah's sword work.

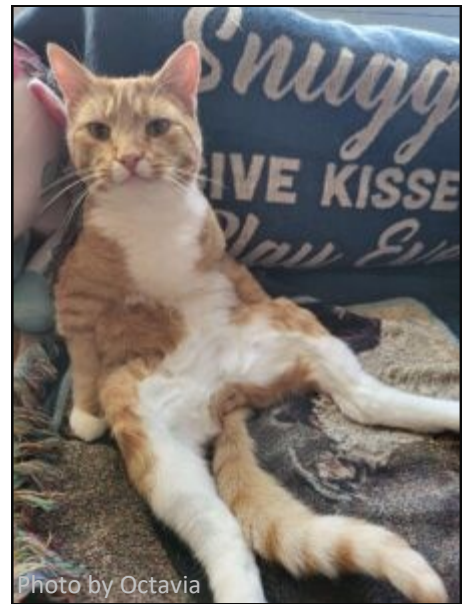


Photo by Octavia

Snickerdoodle, ready to live the good life and maybe convince Octavia to cook him up some treats.

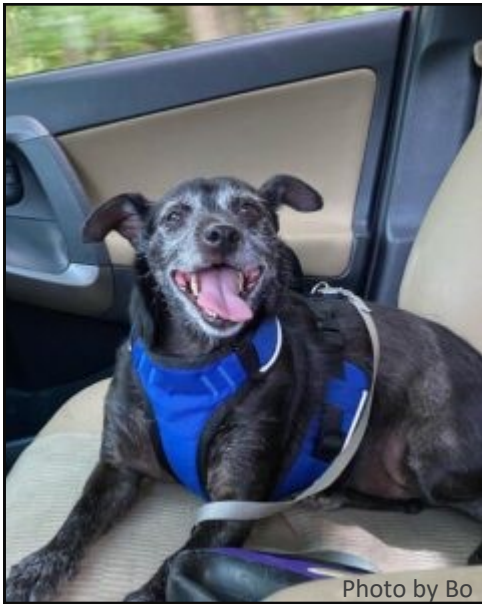


Photo by Bo

Hank can't wait for the weather to get warmer so Bo can take him on more trips...



Photo by Bo

...but for now he'll stay inside, thanks.



Photo by Aesa

Hey, Volmar, Duncan would like to know how you blazon the most interesting cat in the world?



Photo by Aesa

Maebdh heard that Molly and Cailte met the Wormquisitor at Pennsic and has many questions.



Yes, Sforza knows exactly how to use that axe and she's gonna teach Jonas a thing or two about it.

Upcoming Events:

With the holidays mostly behind us and a long stretch of winter still ahead, there are still plenty of options for those who want to keep busy in the SCA. More things are being added all the time, so be sure to check the Province calendar!

- New Year's Day Outdoor Practice:** Since New Year's Eve falls on the normal Tuesday practice night, an extra practice will be held on Wednesday, New Year's Day, from 11am to 2pm at Two Lights State Park in Cape Elizabeth, ME. Those not participating in the fighting are also welcome, come out and see your friends! Activities will be outside and somewhat by the ocean, so please dress warmly. Maine State Park fees apply.
- Monthly Province Meeting:** This month, in addition to the normal agenda, we'll be voting on the annual budget as drafted and approved for review in last month's Budget Meeting. This will be a pass/fail vote, no changes can be made at this time.
- Cook's Guild Activities:** Keep an eye out for more information on the January meeting of the Cooks' Guild! Date and location pending confirmation of the budget, but there have been rumours of a soup swap, so pull out the big pot and start prepping your favourite recipes for a cosy, soup-filled day.
- Dance, Scribal and Craft nights** continue to be held on their respective evenings. Please visit the website at malagentia.eastkingdom.org for more information.
- Martial practices** continue to be held every Tuesday in the USM Sullivan Gym, 5:30pm to 8:30pm. Paid parking in the gym lot, or street parking is available.
- Check the EK Calendar** at www.eastkingdom.org/events for additional events across the Northern Region, including the Feast of St. Sylvester (Endewearde), A Market Day at Birka (Stonemarche), East Kingdom Bardic Championships (Endewearde) and EK Curia (virtual).

Hope to see you soon!

January - February

- Jan. 1st** - Outdoor Practice (Cape Elizabeth) 11am - 2pm
- Jan. 2nd** - Province Meeting (Virtual) 7pm - 8pm
- Jan. 9th** - Dance Practice (Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- Jan. 11th** - Date held for potential Cooks' Guild event
- Jan. 16th** - Scribal Class (Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- Jan. 27th** - Game Night (Standish) 7pm - 9pm
- Feb. 5th** - Craft Night (Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- Feb. 6th** - Province Meeting (Virtual) 7pm - 8pm
- Feb. 20th** - Scribal Class (Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- Feb. 24th** - Game Night (Standish) 7pm - 9pm

Officers — don't forget to check the dates and submit all required Officer Reports!

This is the December 2024 issue of The Moonstone, a quarterly publication of the Province of Malagentia of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). The Moonstone is available from Jess Horowitz at chronicler@malagentia.eastkingdom.org. It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies. Copyright © 2024 Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. For information on reprinting photographs, articles, or artwork from this publication, please contact the Chronicler, who will assist you in contacting the original creator of the piece. Please respect the legal rights of our contributors.