



The Moonstone

Winter 2025

AS LIV

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Photo by Lauren

Dear Malagentia.

Well, for the first year in a few, we've had a winter that approaches what winter is supposed to look like here in Malagentia! Enough snow to go snowshoeing, cold enough temperatures to truly appreciate a warm fire. Too-short days and long nights – perfect for gathering with friends or tackling that pile of projects.

Every season has something to value if you're open to it – except, possibly, mud or blackfly seasons ...

Its easy to isolate yourself a bit during these colder months, pulling in a bit to avoid the cold and stick to the light. I think that's OK, too. It lets us appreciate the open air and warmer days a bit more when they come.

And as sure as moon follows sun, those days are on their way. We'll see a few changes in Malagentia over the coming months. Our regular A&S gathering, Spring's Inspirations, may be an Autumn's Inspirations this year. The Malagentia Test Kitchen will take on a slightly more low-key nature (if that's even possible for such a low-key event) as a joint Cook's Guild and Forester's Guild outdoor cooking workshop, giving a bit of breathing space to the historic Crown Tourney, to be fought with rapier forms. We're going to try to make sensible changes to schedules at GNE, as well, to better deal with the mid-day heat.

We're going to continue with things that have been good and vital changes here in the Province, like our strong participation in the Portland PRIDE parade and festival (Saturday, June 21).

One of our great strengths in Malagentia is we have stability and tradition balanced with change and innovation. We **know** fencing/fighting practice is every Tuesday night, and GNE is the week after July 4, and our province meetings are the 1st Thursday evening of the month – and so many other examples that are predictable, dependable and accessible.

But we are also open to new ideas, to adjusting and improving. If someone is willing to come forward with a good idea and the energy to make it work, we'll come together to make it happen. That's how we find ourselves with a monthly game night, marching with thousands in Portland PRIDE and showing off our medieval awesomeness at the Burgundar LARP Faire.

Got an idea and want to put some work into making it happen? Don't be shy – let's talk.

Wyck



Photo by Aesa

From the Chronicler:



Dear Malagentia,

A bit of a shorter issue this time around, though the contents remain no less worthy of note. The season—both axial and event—started a bit slower and sleepier than some, with life trundling along beneath a blanket of snow. While the Provincial activity level has quieted some and perhaps there aren't as many options in these darker weeks, it's been comforting to know that without the hectic rush of events and workshops and meetings and doings, there are kitchens still bustling, forests still stirring, swords and bows and armour still being maintained.

The snow is still melting, but already the horizon is filled with what's waiting in the coming months: events both large and small, some within our Province, others hosted by our neighbours throughout the North; participation in our wider community, including favourite demos returning with new opportunities; and a historic Crown Tournament that will see the showing and support that Malagentia is known for.

It's hard to believe with winter insisting on getting one more word in, but it's coming fast. Even now, the days are growing longer, the weather warmer, and soon we'll be able to do more than just dream of Spring.

In service to community,

Aesa

Photo by Aesa



What do you call a flock of Pelicans? Malagentian.

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What Have We Been Up To: Soups and Swords and a little bit of Paradise

While taking a bit of a break from official events the last few months, Malagentia still managed to keep plenty busy. No matter the weather, we had a bit of something for everyone, both outside and in. Here's a bit of what's been happening since the last issue:

Cooks' Guild Soup Swap



Photo by Lydia

When the winter sets in and the temperatures drop, there's nothing like a steaming hot bowl of soup. And as usual, our local Cooks' Guild had us covered! For their January gathering, the Guild hosted a soup swap, wherein

all were invited to prepare a pot of their favourite soup to bring and share at the Arion Lodge in Lyman, Maine. Period recipes were not required, with the focus instead on warmth and camaraderie as those in attendance armed themselves with cups and sampling spoons, ready and willing to eat their way through a plethora of options.

And what options they were! A full menu, as near as this tragically underfed Chronicler is aware:

Ribollita (thickened bean and bread stew), split pea

soup and split pea spackle with schnitzel, chicken paprikash, carrot and ginger soup, Hen-in-winter, curried butternut squash and pear, potato and leek, leek and pea, Victorian carrot soup, tomato basil and finally, a soup of sauerkraut and smoked ribs. Oh, and a pot of savoury toasted cheese to round it all out (you can try to tell me that savoury toasted cheese isn't a soup, but you will never pry this spoon out of my hands).

Stay tuned on social media for upcoming Cooks' Guild activities! Nothing in the works at the moment for the month of April, but keep an ear out for news about a potential event coming up that may look familiar to those who are fans of camping and cooking workshops that take place on Bradbury Mountain in early May...

Goddard Mansion Practice



Photo by Mat

Here in the North, we've learned to take our outdoor opportunities as they come, which means the moment there's a clear spot in the forecast and a bit of dry ground, you can find our fencers out there taking their guard. This time, the gathering spot was outside the Goddard Mansion, part of the Fort Williams Park in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. While not quite a castle, the ruins of the old mansion, built in

1858 and burned down to a stone shell in 1981, provided an appropriately scenic backdrop to a day of swordplay and socialising. Even with snow still on the ground and a brisk onshore wind to remind everyone winter hasn't let go quite yet, it was a nice reminder that regular outdoor practices are just around the corner.

Practice was a blast...really blew me away!

-Noah, who clearly inherited the Wyck family sense of humour.

Otzi's Paradise

Too much snow on the ground for martial activities? Not a problem for the Malagentian chapter of the Foresters' Guild, who are equally—if not more—prepared for the frozen fields and



Photo by Esben

ice laden trees as they are for the lush green woods of summer. This past February, the Guild invited all and sundry to join them on Bradbury Mountain in Pownal, Maine for an outdoor get-together with a side of Forester related activities. Otzi's Paradise is by no means an official event, but instead an informal, unorganised get-together named for the naturally mummified remains of a Copper age man found in the Ötztal Alps back in 1991. The name certainly gives interested parties an idea of what to expect—Maine, after all, is not known for its mild winters. While period garb and kit is encouraged, the

Foresters stress that safety and comfort are paramount at Otzi's, and those who may need mundane layers to combat the cold will never be turned away.

But with several fires springing up around the campsite and groups of people congregating with crafts and projects, any chill in the air was hardly noticeable. More often than not, even with nothing officially scheduled, Forester gatherings are great opportunities to share existing skills and pick up some new ones with a hands-on approach. Have knowledge or interest in tracking, cooking, cordage weaving, carving or pretty much anything to do with fire? You'll fit right in at Otzi's.

In addition to Otzi's Paradise, the Malagentia branch of the Foresters' Guild holds sporadic get-togethers throughout all seasons, in addition to more official events. Garbed hikes (sometimes involving ice cream), workshops and skill-shares are just some of the many activities hosted by the Guild. These gatherings are often open to all, with no obligation to join the Guild (though there may on occasion be a Foresters' Court held, wherein the Guild conducts their business, including recognition and induction of new members. Interested in finding out more? Check out <https://malagentia.eastkingdom.org/main/foresters-guild/> for detailed information and contact.

VIVANT!

Far and loud does word of Malagentia spread throughout the Kingdom, so that news of the deeds of her people should come to the attention of Their Majesties and at Their behest those deeds were celebrated before Their populace. To wit:

In the Shire of Anglespur, at a time of revelry and feasting to celebrate **East Kingdom 12th**

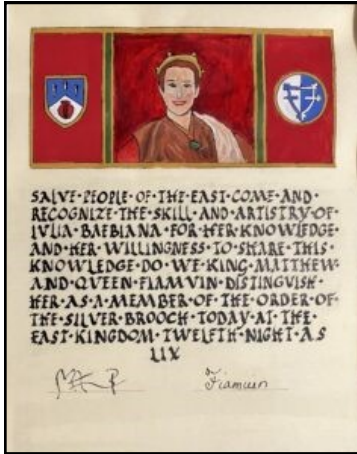


Photo by Aesa

Night, Malagentia's own Iulia Baebiana, known to those familiar to her as Bia, was called into the Court of Their Majesties and presented with a scroll created by Morwenna O Hurlihie to mark the occasion of her induction into the **Order of the Silver Brooch**,

recommended by those who saw not just her knowledge of the arts, but her endless willingness to share with those around her.

Later that same month, at the site of great feats of arms, works of art, stunning fashions and joyful dances that we know as **A Market Day at Birka**, these residents of Malagentia were summoned before Their Majesties Matthew des Arden and Fiamuin Kareman to be honoured before all. Having already made his mark on the field of armoured combat, **Richard Crowe** did prove himself also skilled in the art of rapier, and in recognition of such was inducted into the **Order of the Silver Rapier** and presented with scroll and medallion bearing the marks of said Order in commemoration. To further acknowledge the Province's skill in the fencing arts, **Trian O'Bruidair** was called forth and for the long cultivation of his own prowess and contributions to the community, was inducted into the **Order of the Golden Rapier**, and likewise presented with scroll

and regalia appropriate to his station.

There are many ways to give service in this Society. Some do so at great volume, some quietly. But it is a very rare few who manage to serve silently, and yet loud enough to be heard across the Kingdom. For her own great acts of service, our own **Lydia Webbe**, Sign Herald of the East Kingdom, was summoned before Their Majesties and awarded the **Rabbit in the Moon**, and gifted a token thereof.



Having still further business at that time, Their Majesties requested the presence of **Elgiva Wilhelm**, to recognise her for her skill with needle, thread and fabric and the time given in service to Their Reign, to name her **Clothier to the Crown**.

Once the deeds of the day were done, Their Majesties gathered Their populace once more and before all assembled, requested the presence of **Edward MacGyver dos Scorpis** and told all of his tireless service to Crown and Kingdom, for which he was honoured with an **Augmentation of Arms**, documented by Kay Leigh Mac Whyte.

Having further business with those members of Malagentia, Their Majesties called before them **Adam of Malagentia** and, having heard of his participation and contributions to the Society, did in direct action **award him Arms**, and presented in recognition thereof a scroll done by the hand of Mickel von Salm.

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.

Why is a Pelican Like a Writing Desk?

Because they'll both support you and the work that needs doing.



Photo by Aloysius

There are a lot of words we can use to characterize how someone “becomes” a Peer in the SCA.

They can be Invited to join an Order. They can be elevated to a Peerage. They might enter said Order.

Or, perhaps, they might be recognized as ... a Laurel. A Knight. A Master of Defense. A Rose. Or, mayhaps, a Pelican.

That last bit might best apply to what happened to our treasured Aloysius Sartore at Birka this year, as he joined the Mighty Flock of Eastern Pelicans. With some very little stretch of imagination and whimsy, it may appropriately be said that Their Majesties did, upon the urging of Their varied peoples and the joyful ‘Yay!’ of their Order, *recognize* good Aloysius as one who had been living the life of a Pelican, embodying the very spirit and, indeed, have been an exemplar of the vaunted “Peer-like qualities.”

Aloysius will be the first to tell you he is not perfect. None of us are. But he represents the best of us. He gives his time freely – but he gives what he can, and ensures he gives within his means. He gives because he *wants* to. He gives in service to community, and to the Dream. That Dream is that we

can take a pause from the real world and exist in an idealized state where we are trying to be the best we can be – and we *believe* that best in others, too.

At this storied court held at Birka, did Rose, Master of Defense, Knight, Laurel and Pelican rise and speak for Aloysius, urging Their Majesties Matthew and Fiamuin to take action on behalf of the entire populace and so recognize this good person.

And they did.

And there was much rejoicing.

And so the Dream goes on.

- Mat Wyck

- *Scroll calligraphy and illumination by Altani Khatagani, words by Bo of Malagentia.*
- *Coat by Amée le Mort, because a Pelican's gonna Pelican.*
- *Medallion by Stefan of Silverforge.*
- *Vigil food and coordination by Shyvan Floyd.*



Photos by Aloysius



It Takes a Village...and Amée



Photo by Amée

When we talk about the future of the Society, it's not just about the plans, the shifting Royals, the changing of the calendars. The future of the Society is happening right now, at every event. It's zipping by you on the road, it's hunting through tents for sheep, it's running screaming out of Court en route to ~~devoir~~ tag some poor unfortunate with a box full of toys.

Perhaps it's cliché, but only because it's true: our future as a living, thriving Society depends on our younger generations. And while we in the East pride ourselves on our independence and it's not uncommon to see packs of children roving through events with limited supervision, it may be that independence is also doing those children a disservice, leaving those of a certain age to fend for themselves.

But not Amée.

Last Great Northeaster War, I remember walking down the road one evening and passing by the Family Point area. I saw a group of teens adorned with glowsticks, laughing and calling out to each other in the field behind the tent. Just existing. Just being themselves. Earlier that day, the tent saw

children no older than ten sitting in the shade for crafts or storytime or gathering to "hunt" rabbits. All of them, given a place to be comfortable and belong. This is the gift that Amée provides, and one that's growing all too rare.

If that were where her efforts ended, it would still be more than enough. But it isn't. She doesn't let herself be limited by her own specialisations and instead finds ways to utilise her skills wherever she can.

As my own Deputy Event Steward for this upcoming GNE, she never fails to give expert advice around the complex legal requirements around a piece of the Society admittedly foreign to me. As the Seneschal of Ravensbridge, she gives guidance and support to the people of the Riding. That's what Amée does, she gives. She gives time, she gives space, she gives joy.

She gives us a future.

- *Scroll illumination by Octavia Valeria, calligraphy by Mickel von Salm, words by Nicol macDonnaghaih.*
- *Cloak by Heidi Nilson and Mary of the High Hills.*
- *Medallion by Crown & Chalice.*
- *Vigil food and coordination by Shyvan Floyd.*



Photo by Amée

Upcoming Events:

The snow is melting (again. for real this time!) and every day the sun lingers just a little bit longer above the horizon. Spring is so tantalisingly close and we in Malagentia are gearing up to meet it with our usual offering of official events, practices, and social get-togethers. More things are being added all the time, so be sure to check the Province calendar!

•**Monthly Province Meeting:** The first Thursday of every month, this upcoming Province meeting will be taking place virtually, on April 3rd at 7pm. Link will be posted on social media, and we'll be going over officer reports, upcoming events and general Province happenings. You don't need to be an officer to attend, all are welcome!

•**Cook's Guild Activities:** As mentioned previously, the Cooks' Guild has something bigger than their usual monthly gatherings in the works. If you like outdoor cooking, camping, and things that look an awful lot like a Malagentian Test Kitchen, stay tuned for more info coming soon!

•**Dance, Scribal and Craft—and now Music! 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. We will be moving outside to Payson Park once the weather warms up and we get enough daylight, keep an eye out for announcements towards the end of April, beginning of May!

•**Check the EK Calendar** at www.eastkingdom.org/events for additional events across the Northern Region and neighbouring areas, including Jehan's Fencing and Fighting at the Fort, which is just as exciting as it sounds! (Endewearde), Panteria (Panther Vale) and the upcoming Crown Tournament, to be fought for the very first time with rapier weapon forms (Glenn Linn)

Hope to see you soon!

April - May

- April. 2nd** - Craft Night
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- April 3rd** - Province Meeting
(Virtual) 7pm - 8pm
- April. 10th** - Dance Practice
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- April. 24th** - Music Practice
(Waterboro) 7pm - 9pm
- April. 26th** - Jehan's
Fencing & Fighting at
the Fort (Prospect)
- April. 28th** - Game Night
(Standish) 7pm - 9pm
- May 1st** - Province Meeting
(Virtual) 7pm - 8pm
- May. 3rd** - East Kingdom
Crown Tournament
(Schaghticoke, NY)
- May. 7th** - Craft Night
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- May 8th** - Dance Practice
(Gorham) 7pm - 9pm
- May 26th** - Game Night
(Standish) 7pm - 9pm

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

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