

The Quercus

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE OAKEN REGION

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Drawing by Renè Richard

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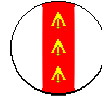
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Upcoming Events

July

- 11 - Brawl at the Crooked Dragon XII
(Wellington, OH)
- 24-9 - Pennsic War XXXVIII
(Slippery Rock, PA)

August

- 21-23 - Melee at Roswell
(Roswell, OH)

September

- 4-6 - Harvest Day (Pleasant Hill, OH)
- 11-13 - Saxon Summer IX
(Hubbard, OH)
- 18-20 - Pounce VIII (Findlay, OH)

From the North Oaken Seneschal

Greetings from your new Regional Seneschal,

My name is Raphael da Cernia, and I work and play in the Marche of the Marshes (Bowling Green, OH). I was the local group seneschal for many years (I lost count), until I was suckered, er... I mean asked to step up by my predecessor. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me by email or phone, (if you get the answering machine, leave a message, I will get back to you.) If I don't know the answer to your question, I will find it for you.

I have spent sometime in the SCA, and I have watched our average age grow older and our numbers fall. So during my tenure, I would like to really encourage recruiting. This can be done by many different venues, such as: Demo's, advertisement, public events, and the best one of all, word of mouth. So please get with your local Chatelaine and figure out the best way to help your group grow.

Yours in Service,
Sgt. Raphael da Cernia
North Oaken Regional Senschal

From the Equestrian Officer

There are currently seven warranted marshals and three marshals in training at this time in the Oaken Region.

There were two events in the Oaken Region this quarter:

Brendokenfest 2009

Date: Saturday, April 25, 2009
Hosting Group: Barony of Brendoken
Site name and location: Tuscarawas County Fairgrounds; Dover, Ohio
Total number attending event: 110
EMIC: Finna
Other Marshals: Zuriel, Raynold, Offria (EMIT), Erelwin Sarpo (EMIT from Constellation), Seonaid inghean Domnial (EMIT), Richard of Essex (EMIT)
Number of horses in attendance: 8
Number of total equestrian participants: 14
Number of mounted participants: 8 (7 adult, 1 minor)
Authorizations: 1- riding and games (passed) Angus MacGregor the Fletcher

Type of equestrian activities held:

- 1 Ribbon race (won by Zuriel and Gozen)
- 2 Tax collector (coin toss relay race) (won by Katie, Angus, and Erelwin)
- 3 Baby of Brendoken (relay race) (won by Marcon, Gozen, Rhiannon, and Seonaid)
- 4 Challenge course consisting of ring tilt, carry a message and drop in a bucket, spear throw, small jump, full pass over cone, stop in box to stop time (won by Marcon)

Incidents: None

Baron Wars IX

Date: Saturday, May 9, 2009

Location: Carter Park, Bowling Green, Ohio in the Barony of Red Spears

Number of People Thru Troll: Unknown at this time

EMIC: Rowan de Veres

Number of horses in attendance: 8 – all from in state

Number of total equestrian participants: 17

Marshals: Rowan de Veres, Zuriel Nightshade (Ohio Regional), Timotheous Symmes, Raynold of Wharrum, Enna Margerd, James McPherson

EMIT(s): Richard, Seonaid, Erelwin

Authorizations: 2 - rider and games (passed) Richard of Essex and Severin

From the Equestrian Officer continued...

Activities included:

- 1 Morning practice of game
- 2 Elimination tourney using rings, heads, reeds, spear throw (won by THL Zuriel Nightshade)
- 3 Afternoon tourney (challenge course) including rings, reeds, heads, spear throw, maze deliver (take message and put in bucket), maiden rescue, cross moat (small tarp between hay bales) (won by Enna Margerd)
- 4 That evening Their Majesties processed into court mounted

It was also announced that the winner of the Middle Kingdom Equestrian Championship was won by Enna Margerd.

Incidents: None

THL Zuriel Nightshade

From the South Oaken Archery Marshal

We had South Oaken Regional Archery Championships at Push for Pennsic. Joshua Frost won, with Elspeth MacGregor coming in at 2nd. Our outstanding Youth Archer was Alex. We had 26 Adults and 10 Youth participating. In case a few don't know, Joshua Frost has been and is my drop-dead deputy for both positions.

I am retiring from being South Oaken Marshal/Commander, this summer. Time passes on, and it is time to pass this honor on to others. Anyone who is interested in this job, please contact Mistress Forester Arwenna. She needs a letter of intent and resume. The open job posting was supposed to be in the Pale, and never got put on the job board for several months. Please let others know.

It has been my pleasure to serve South Oaken Archers and Populace, and I intend to stick around.

Thank you!

Mistress Forester Roewynne Langley, OP
S.Oaken Regional Archery Marshal/Commander

From the North Oaken Arts & Sciences Minister

As an introduction, I hail from Mugmort, in the Middle Marches. I was the Baronial MOAS until accepting the RMOAS position. Every year for the past five years I have traveled around with the tallyroom crew, helping at the Regional A&S Faires. That has been a great opportunity to meet the Kingdom's best artisans and craftspeople, and also to learn from the KMOAS and all the dedicated Peers who staff the tallyroom in each region. On a personal note, I do scribal arts, some inkle weaving, garb sewing, and I study Iconography and Slavic history and culture. I'm also interested in Court Heraldry and Protocol.

Many thanks,

Halla of Mugmort ODH, ODG, OPF

Ditty by Lord Kenna McKenna

What can I say? Her Excellency Isabeau is a fountain of inspiration to the Barony of the Middle Marches. Alas for us both, it seems she most often inspires me to egregious filk. In fact, even her threats of vengeance only seem to provide more inspiration. This is a little ditty to an old minstrel tune about a cat that had nine lives which I sang at Mugmort Meless IV before beating a hasty retreat...

Isabeau's Vengeance

(To the tune of *The Cat Came Back*)

Now the Baroness had troubles of her own,
That darn McKenna kept puttin' her in poems,
She had a simple plan with execution as its key,
One darn poet, how hard could it be?

Chorus: But McKenna came back, the very next day.
McKenna came back, they thought he was a goner,
But McKenna came back, he just couldn't stay away.

She promised a gold piece to Ragnar with his boat,
To tie him in a sack, and throw him in the moat,
But when court came Rags was nowhere to be found,
Now they're draggin' the moat for Ragnar the drowned.

Chorus:

She commanded the seneschal to shoot him down on sight,
He loaded up his blunderbuss with nails and dynamite;
And when he pulled the trigger the blast was profound,

And teensy chunks of Gunnar was all they ever found.

Chorus:

Isabeau told to Anya to go up in a balloon,
And leave that darn minstrel up there on the moon;
The balloon came down somewhere in Aethelmearc,
Where she is now, we're all in the dark.

Chorus:

Malachi she said, "Take him to the west!"
"Leave him in the desert, that would be the best."
But the horses bucked and ran when they left the trail,
And not a soul was left behind to tell the gruesome tale.

Chorus:

She called upon her stick-jocks to waylay him in the yard,
Gunnolf threw a wrap-shot, he threw it mighty hard;
When it smacked him 'hind the ear, he thought it rather slight,
So they switched to pole-arms, and knocked him out of sight

Chorus:

Izzy called her pirate friends to tie him to the mast,
Barely out beyond the bay and leaks were springing fast;

The pirates all began to pray, the boat began to toss,
A great big gust of wind came by and every soul was lost.

Chorus:

She took him to the kitchen where Arundel was cookin',
And dropped him in the pot when he wasn't lookin',
He disappeared beard and all, with a bubbling shriek,
And the stew in the feast hall tasted furry for a week.

Chorus:

Morgan led the building of a giant trebuchet,
They popped him in and they shot him into space,
She grinned with delight, he finally was out of reach,
Then someone spied a parachute drifting to the east.

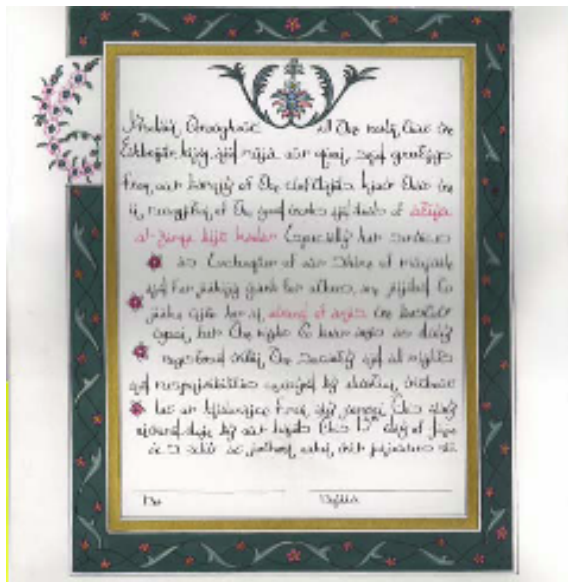
Chorus:

He's paid no heed to her threats or her curses,
Isabeau's stuck forever as the target of his verses,
She sighed with resignation, it was just as well,
When that Sonuva B, sea-cook, called her Isabelle

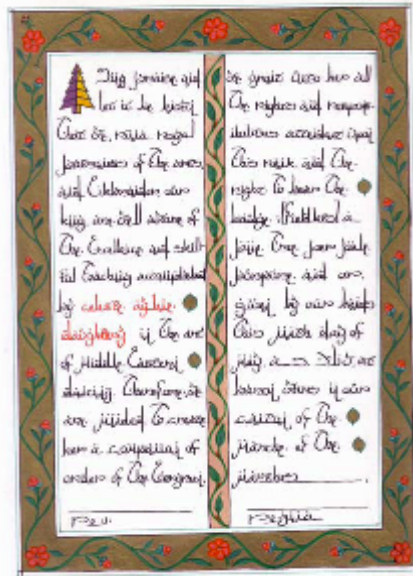
Aristan Showcase

Who: Lady Iosobail inghean Uilliam mhic Leoid.

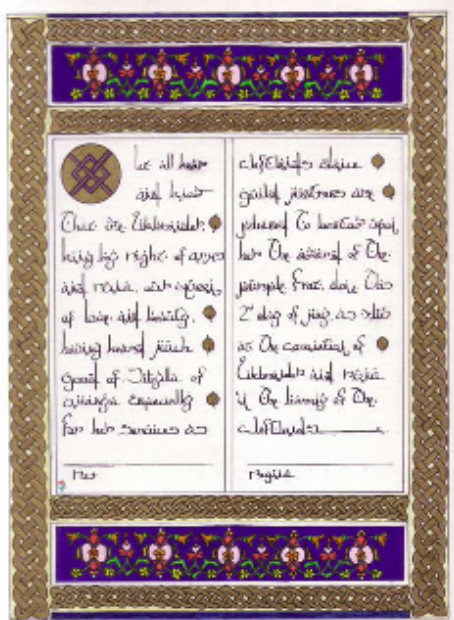
What: Persian and Arabic inspired scrolls complete with faux Arabic calligraphy.



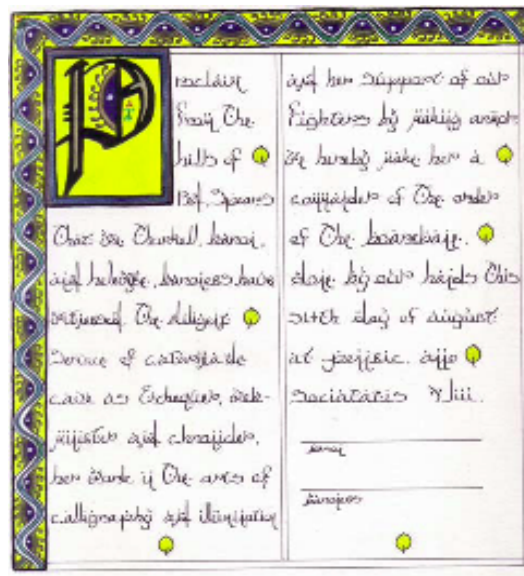
Award of Arms scroll



Evergreen scroll



Purple Fret



Boarsbane

In the Kitchen: with Godfrey

Leche Frys Un-lentouned.

It is not uncommon for there to be multiple forms of a recipe in medieval texts that indicate how to prepare a dish for "Flesche Days", "Fische Days", or for "Lentoun". The specific restrictions for each of these varied somewhat by time and place, but in general, Fish days forbid meat and poultry, while Lent forbade flesh of any kind, eggs, cow's milk, and sometimes butter. In this article, I'm looking at two such versions. The first is from *Two Fifteenth-Century Cookery-Books* [1]

Leche Frys

Take Wyne & Fre[essche brothe, Clowes, Maces, & Marow, & poudere of Gyngere, & Safroun, & let al boyle togederys, & put ther-to creme, (& yif it be clowtys, draw it thorwe a straynoure,) & yolkys of Eyroun, & melle hem to-gederys, & pore the licoure that the Marow was sothyn yn ther-to; than make fayre cofyns of fayre past, & put the Marow ther-yn, & mynce datys, & strawberys in tyme of yere, & put the cofyns in the ovyn, & late hem harde a lytel; than take hem owt, & put the licoure ther-to, & late hem bake, & serue f[orth]. [1]

This is certainly not a Lent recipe since broth, marow (meat), cream, and eggs (Eyroun in middle english). From the ingredients this seems akin to a modern mincemeat pie.

(Note; this original text is mislabeled "Leche Frys in Lentoun" in [1] and shown with a redaction of the actual Lenten recipe. The keeper of the site, James L. Matterer, usually does a good job, but like many compilation sites, he's at the whim of the submissions he receives.)

Leche Frys in Lentoun

166. Leche frys in lentoun. Drawe a thik almaunde mylke wip water. Take dates and pyke hem clene with apples and peeres, & mynce hem with prunes damysyns; take out þe stones out of þe prunes, & kerue the prunes a two. Do þerto raisouns, coraunce, sugur, flour of canel, hoole macys and clowes, gode powdours & salt; colour hem vp with saundres. Meng þise with oile. Make a coffyn as þou didest bifore & do þis fars þerin, & bake it wel, and serue it forth. [2]

This version, while it shares a partial name with the above, is quite different. Almond Milk is substituted for the eggs and cream (a common substitution in Lenten dishes) and apples and pears substituted for the marrow. The dried fruits used are different, but is present in both.

Upon reading these two recipes, and the two different redactions offered, I had the idea to make the fruit based pie as a dessert, but without the substitutions for Lent. From that, I developed the following recipe:

Leche Frys Un-Lentouned

1 Med. pear, firm, peeled, cored, and cut into bite-sized wedges	1/4 Cup Sugar
2 Med. Apples, peeled, cored, and cut into bite-sized wedges	1/4 Cup of Zante Currents (actually a type of raisin)
1/2 Cup red wine,	1/4 Cup pitted prunes
1 Cup of heavy cream	1/4 Cup chopped dates
6 Egg Yolks	1/4 tsp. each Cinnamon, Mace, Nutmeg (or to taste)
	1/8 tsp ground cloves
	1 9" single pie crust.

Place dried fruit, spices, sugar, and wine in sauce pan and simmer for 10-15 minutes.

Line a pie pan with the crust dough, and place the apple and pear wedges in it. Bake at 350 for 8-10 minutes, remove just as the edges of the crust barely begin to brown. Remove pie from oven and set aside. Strain fruit from pan with a slotted spoon. Reserve the liquid. Mix dried fruit in with the apples and pears in the pie shell. To the liquid, add the cream and then beat in the egg yolks. Pour this liquid over the fruit mix in the pie shell. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes or until a skewer comes out of the center clean.

This dish was well received at the Catteden Picnic/Demo.

[1] Austin, Thomas. *Two Fifteenth-Century Cookery-Books*. Harleian MS. 279 & Harl. MS. 4016, with extracts from Ashmole MS. 1429, Laud MS. 553, & Douce MS 55. London: for The Early English Text Society by N. Trübner & Co., 1888. As shown at <http://www.godecookery.com/nboke/nboke39.htm>.

[2] Hieatt, Constance B. and Sharon Butler. *Curye on English: English Culinary Manuscripts of the Fourteenth-Century (Including the Forme of Curye)*. London: For the Early English Text Society by the Oxford University Press, 1985. As shown at <http://www.godecookery.com/goderec/grec60.htm>.