

WIND

SWEPT



October XXII

Calendar

OCTOBER

Thur 1 Populace Meeting 10205 Powderhouse 637-8168 7:00PM Costume
Sat 3 CROWN TOURNAMENT CAER GALEN (Boulder, CO) Mistress Marisela
Sun & 4 Defenders Tourney, Lord Alexandre (303)-442-0959
Tues 13 All Guilds Meeting and Newcomers School 637-8168 7:00PM Optional
10205 Powderhouse
Sat 17 Arts & Science Documentation Seminar & 637-8168 9:30AM See Pg.8
Sat 17 Bardic Revel 2820 Thomes #1 635-3882 6:00PM Costume
Tues 20 Calligraphy Workshop 4301 Hayes Ave. 632-8938 7.00PM Optional
Wed 28 Writers Guild- Windswept 2820 Thomes #1 635-3882 7:00PM Optional

NOVEMBER

Sat 7 All Hallow's Eve Party, Powderhouse 634-2037 3:00PM Costume
Wed 4 Populace Meeting 2820 Thomes #1 635-3882 7:00PM Optional
Sun 22 Needleworkers' Crazy Day Off, Lady Elaine, 634-2037, Noon, Optional

DECEMBER

Sat 5 Populace Meeting, MAEVE'S PLACE 632-8938 7:00PM, COSTUME
Fri 11 Ladies Get Lost Revel, Lady Elaine 634-2037 9:00PM, COSTUME
Fri 11 Lords' Quest, Lord Mlodn 637-8168 7:00PM, COSTUME

COMING IN JANUARY: LADY RENATE'S FAMOUS TWELFTH NIGHT!!

Ladies Night Out

Come all ye ladies for a night out! Bring your sleeping gear, drinks, and munchies to Lady Elaine's for a wild night of "ladies' only" fun. Event fee (includes lunch on following day) is \$5.00. More information available from Lady Elaine.

Lord's Night Out

Come all ye lords to the quest! The magic box will entertain you with scenes unfit for ladies. Be prepared to stay. Bring munchies. \$2.50 Wenches welcome?? Contact Lord Mlodn for information.

GEESE

Keeping geese in the British Isles was more popular than raising chickens. A cool, moist climate with abundant grass that can support wild flocks of geese made it simple for even the lowest person with a little land to fatten up a few geese.

The wild Greylag goose is the direct ancestor of most of the domestic breeds of geese, such as the grey Toulouse of France, and the white-Emden of Germany. Another breed, now domesticated is the West-of-England or Pilgrim. It is unusual in that it is the only breed of goose that the males are a different color from the female. Contrary to popular stories, only a few breeds of wild geese are faithful to their mates. In domestication a trio of one gander and two geese is more common.

Geese are very long-lived, and they can live and breed for up to 100 years. Thus a wedding present of a pair of geese could be with a couple all of their married life, supplying them with meat, down and quills for pens. Down was usually plucked from the breast of a live goose in late spring and usually just from the breast. A long-necked "goose basket" was slipped over the goose's head, as a biting goose is a force to be reckoned with! Quills were normally plucked from the first four primary wing feathers and usually only once in a bird's life.

In late fall, excess geese that were not going to be kept for breeding the following spring, were butchered. Thusly it became popular to serve roast goose at Martinmas and Christmas. Some domestic breeds of geese can get up to 30 pounds and in my opinion, make it a tastier and moister meat than the traditional turkey for holiday meals. To properly cook a goose, one must remember that it is a very greasy meat. Thusly, it is best cooked on a spit, or if roasted in a pot, there should be a rack or something in the pan to keep the bird from sitting in the grease.

Elizabeth Rebecca MacLeod



DUCKS AND GEESE (*ANATES ET ANSERES*)

Nature: Warm and dry in the second degree. *Optimum:* Those which stayed quietly in their nests after hatching. *Usefulness:* They fatten melancholy people. *Dangers:* They fill the body with superfluities. *Neutralization of the Dangers:* By blowing borax down their throats before killing them.

(*Casanatense*, f. CXXXII)

"ANONYMOUS CONTEST WINNER"

Sustaining Membership in the SCA was won by Gwynmaeve of Falconguard, more commonly known as Maeve the Hither-dweller of the House of the Drunken Archers, She is 13th century Welch Bard and Calligrapher, Mundanely, Betty Creegan, a stained-glass artist.

Contest to continue, so live the "Dream".

On the Talismanic Properties of Gemstones

by Gwynmaeve of Falconguard (Maevae the Hither-dweller)

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**S**o, my lords and ladies, you have carefully set aside your gold coins, and have made the decision to purchase something to adorn yourselves with, specifically, a piece of jewelry set with precious stones. Be it a dark-jeweled ring, an encrusted belt-buckle, a cloak-pin, or a necklace of polished beads, good counsel would be to consult your local alchemist or mystic to determine what stone may be the most compatible for you, just as our forebearers in the Middle Ages did. In those times, precious stones were held in awe; they were so different from ordinary rocks (which came in dull colors), and, when polished by master craftsmen, were astonishingly beautiful. To the medieval person, such beauty could only be explained by something beyond his or her own world; perhaps the stone came through the misty boundary separating the known world from the supernatural one, or fell from the heights of Heaven, or was left by a night-demon prowling near a rough cliff.

**H**owever, as competent alchemists and mystics are an elusive lot in these Current Middle Ages, I have prepared the following list of precious stones, describing their appearance and summarizing the special properties that were attributed to them and carried along through the centuries---Believe them if you like (medical difficulties, however, are best attended to by our Healers), and keep in mind that any given stone, if perfect, was considered a source of all blessings to its wearer, while a defective stone was a source of untold misfortune to its owner.

Here be the first part of the list:

## Agate

Agate is a quartz-type mineral, and comes in many colors. It is said to have the ability to endow its wearer with a bold heart, and guard him or her from all dangers (White or white-black banded agates serve best for this purpose). Polished agates that are black or brown, with a white circle in the center, protect the wearer from the Evil Eye. Wearing agate ornaments at night cures insomnia, and insures pleasant dreams.

## Amber

Amber, the fossilized resin of trees, was thought to be of supernatural origin, one explanation being that amber was the essence of the rays of the setting sun, congealed in the sea and then cast upon the shore. Wearing amber is considered lucky, and the stone is said to impart a special protection from evil to its wearer. Carving the amber into shapes of animals enhances these properties.

## Amethyst

The beautiful purple amethyst was quite a prize to its owner; the stone had the power to control evil thoughts, quicken the intelligence, and to render men shrewd in business matters. It also had a sobering effect upon those overtaken by passions, imparted protection to soldiers, assisted hunters in capturing wild game, and protected its wearer from contagious diseases. On top of all that, it was especially regarded as a cure for drunkenness!



## Beryl

The sea-green beryl, or aquamarine, was known to give fighters help against foes in battle, and render the wearer unconquerable and at the same time amiable. Beryl also is said to reawaken the love of married people.

## Bloodstone

This type of agate is a greenish color, dotted with blood-red blotches. It was prized among alchemists, who used the stone's power to bring about thunder, lightning, rain, and tempest. A more common use of the stone was to stop hemorrhaging; merely touching the stone to the afflicted place was all that was needed to halt the bleeding.

## Carnelian

The wearing of the rich, reddish-orange carnelian was recommended to those with weak voices or are timid in speech, as the stone was thought to give them courage and a bold voice. The carnelian also provided protection from falling houses and walls to those who wore the stone.

## Chalcedony

Chalcedony is a variety of agate which has a waxy luster and is milky or greyish in color. It has the virtue of driving away phantoms and visions of the night.

## Chrysolite (Peridot)

To achieve its full power, the green chrysolite or peridot must be set in gold; worn in this way it dispelled all vague terrors of the night. However, it may also be pierced and strung on the hair of an ass, then attached to the left arm, to protect the wearer from evil spirits.

## Coral

Wearing coral, either red or white, gives its owner the ability to still tempests and to traverse broad rivers in safety. Red coral also had the power to staunch the flow of blood from wounds, cure madness, and enrich the wearer with superior wisdom. To exercise all of its power, the coral must be worn where its brilliant color makes it conspicuous, and if it is broken, the magic power ceases.

## Diamond

The diamond, once thought to be both produced and consumed by thunderbolts, is said to bring victory to its wearer by endowing him with superior strength, fortitude, and courage. It was considered a magic stone of great power, and could drive away nocturnal specters if set in gold and worn on the left arm; likewise, it was considered a gem of reconciliation, enhancing the love of a husband for his wife. Beware, however, for a diamond which is the color of blood, or spotted with red, for it is said that such a stone would quickly bring death to its wearer. Powdered diamond, mixed with food or drink, was considered a deadly poison.

## Emerald

A green emerald was a coveted stone, as it was thought to sharpen the wits and quicken the intelligence of its wearer, therefore making him or her more honest. The emerald was also believed to foreshow future events and reveal truths, but alas, the knowledge on how to make the stone do this has not passed down to the present!

Thus ends the first part of the list; 'twill be continued in the next Windswept!



# Rustic Recap

Grand Rustick proved to be a grand event, though mostly informal. Her Majesty, Queen Tara (Albuquerque), graced us with her presence and gave us the King's sincere regrets. It seems he is inordinately fond of roast duck (on the feast menu) but had already committed himself to another event. She was accompanied by a Lady Marlana, also of Al-Barron. About thirty people attended including Lady Phillippa, Lord Braen, Tehri Hadeel and company from Unser Haven (Fort Collins) and Mistress Marisela and Lord Simon from Caer Galen (Boulder). Autocrats were Elizabeth MacLeod, Andrew MacKay, Donald MacKay (Darcy Randolph), and Ammarantha Randolph.

Opening Court included presentation of an Award of Arms to Tehri Hadeel and presentation of 6-year-old Candace the Fair at court. Candace presented our Queen with a lovely polished stone which Queen Tara announced would be mounted in her coronet. Candace was so impressed by our fair Queen, she drew the picture on the back page of this newsletter. She particularly liked her smile. After court the games began.

**Rooster Crow:** Crow at the chickens and see how many roosters answer back. Threatening them with the stewpot (Lord Simon) and calling them (me) disqualified us. Anedif the Spae Woman (age 76) won with 4 crows.

**Ring Joust:** Lancing rings while on a stick horse. I think Lord Braen of the Motley Bear won, but didn't watch. (At this time the ladies were gossiping and counting train cars with the Queen).

**Muckle Coo Shotput:** Actually tossing cow chips. I made a fair showing, tossing one frisbee style for 37 ft 8 inches, but the Queen hiked up her skirts and threw one softball style a full 74 feet. No contest! Can definitely throw the shit farther than anyone! Candace the Fair won for the children, throwing one 31 feet. The Queen presented her with a quartz crystal as a prize.

**Knife and Star Throw:** Rober aus den Nortlichten won this one, but I was again counting train cars. We do call this the Society for Creative Anachronism.

**Fool's Juggle:** They had many fools sign up for this one before they found out they were juggling raw eggs. Lord Alexander won this one by beating out Lord Simon.

**Duck & Goose Quarterstaff Melee:** My favorite event! Six 3-man teams competed and only five geese! Rober was our herder, Rebecca was the goose girl and I caught the duck. Great fun! I just wish they hadn't insisted on running the ducks through the mud puddle. My costume looked like I had been in it before we were done. Who won? We did!

After the games were done we had a buffet-style feast which included roast duck (not the one I caught) with currant sauce, roast beef with horseradish, home made bread, cheese, various sallets (salads), and farm-grown vegetables. Sotelties (desserts) included apple, rhubarb, and gooseberry pies. Chocolate pie and ice cream were contributed by Ammarantha Randolph while Elizabeth Macleod served her infamous poundcake.

Evening Court included the awards presentations for the day's events plus two more Award of Arms. Darcy Randolph was recognized for his contribution as a Journeyman Healer in the Society. I also received my Arms for my work as Windkeep's Seneschal.





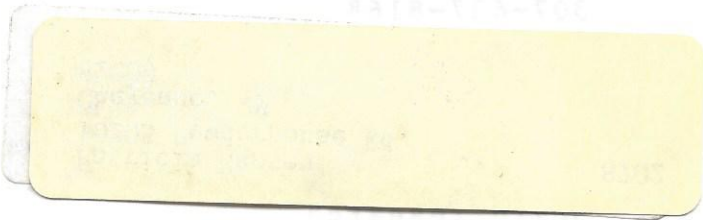




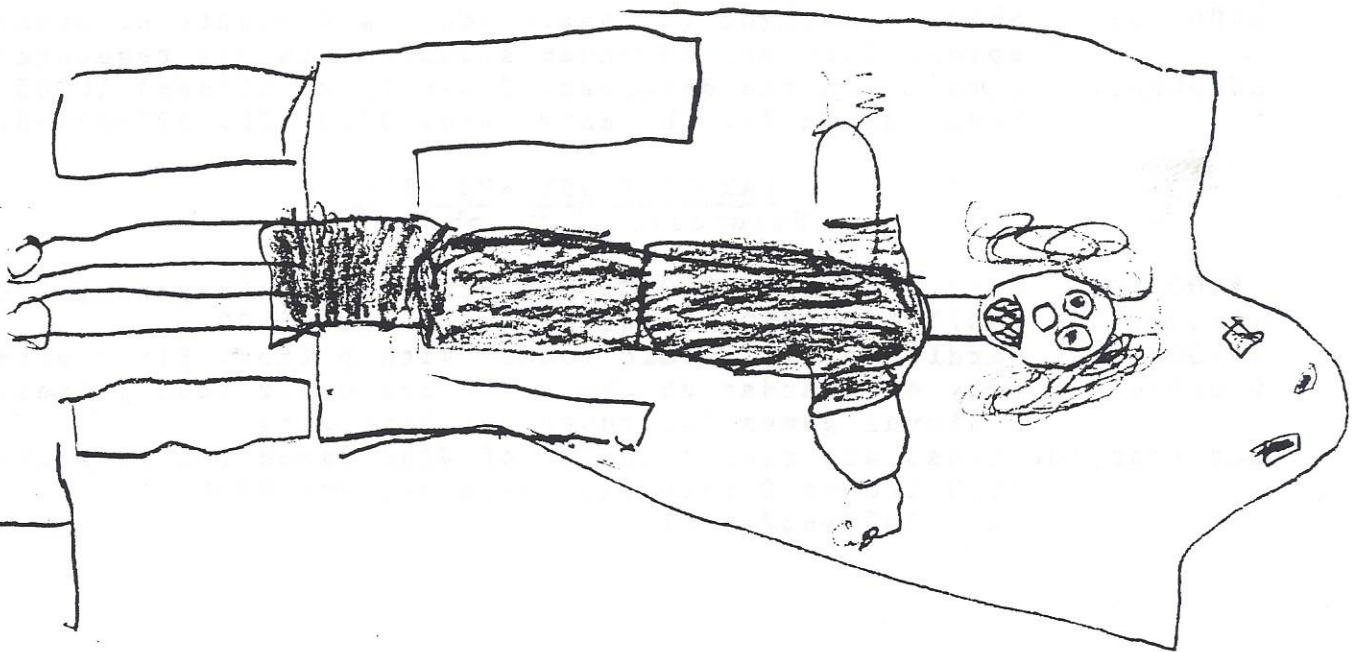


WINDSWEPT

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Time value - do not delay



and

QUEEN

By Candice the Fair

We Need Subscribers!