



Volume 40

The Drekkar
Newsletter
of the Barony of Storvik
in the Kingdom of Atlantia,
branch of the SCA, Inc.
Pennsic, A.S. LIV (2019)



Issue 8

SPECIAL PENNSIC ISSUE!

VIDETE
NE
TURBEMINI

This is the Pennsic 2019 issue of the Drekkar, a publication of the Barony of Storvik of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Drekkar is available from Moe Lane at chronicler@storvik.atlantia.sca.org. Subscriptions are free as all publications are available electronically. This newsletter is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policies. Any infelicities in the Latin above are absolutely and completely the fault of Google Translate, and should be resolved accordingly.

Special thanks to Lady Alicia of Cambion, Astrid Spakona, Lady Patricia of Trakai, Teleri the Well-Prepared, and everyone else who assisted in this project.

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OYEZ! OYEZ! HEY, YOU!

Pennsic News Highlights

Here's some news! You're at Pennsic! So you need to drink more water! No, still more! Do you currently need to urinate? No? Then you're starting to dehydrate! Drink more water!

All out? Go get more water! Drink more water!

***THOU ART MORTAL.
THOU ARE NOT A MORTAL CAMEL.
MAINTAIN THY HYDRATION.***

Register!

Top 5 Reasons why you should register your name and device at Pennsic

1. **Convenience!** [Heralds' Point](#) is located east of the Camp Store (corner of Low Road and Great Eastern Highway), and it will be running throughout Pennsic. It has all the books, it has all the databases, you will be able to get it all taken care of once and for all.
 2. **Shade!** Tents and fans.
 3. **Camaraderie!** You'll meet all sorts of people there. Including heralds! These folks are all volunteering during Pennsic because they want to meet *you*, and help you solve that nagging problem that you're having with getting your name and/or badge right!
 4. **Shade!** No, seriously, they have quite a bit of it. Possibly even air conditioning, but that was just a rumor. A fairly solid rumor from a Laurel that I happen to know, but still just a rumor.
 5. **The Insidious and Intoxicating Allure of All Forms of Heraldry!** There are several kinds; one of them might be of great interest to you. If this sparks your interest at War, talk to a herald: they will happily ensnare you in the mysteries of their order. If this sparks your interest already, here's a [Volunteer Form!](#)
-

Pennsic Tips from "Patty"

By Lady Patricia of Trakai

Some of this advice came to me from current and former members of either the Southwind household or the Barony of Storvik. I am most grateful for all the help they offered to me when I was a newbie. Other tips are based on my own experiences and on how "times have changed" since my first Pennsic 15 years ago.

- Pack multiple pairs of footwear. Changing from sandals to shoes or vice versa can perk up tired tootsies.
- Bring foot care supplies, such as first aid for blisters. If you wear sandals a lot at Pennsic, your heels may become dry and painfully cracked, even if that doesn't normally happen to your feet during your 50-week town run. There's just something about Pennsic dust that extracts moisture from your heels. To prevent this, rub Corn Huskers Lotion or some heel-softening cream onto your feet at bedtime, and then wear socks to bed.
- Carry a small mundane notebook (sized to fit your everyday belt pouch) and a writing implement (nothing fancy). This will come in handy in ways you might not envision, from jotting down block numbers of the cool parties to recording the contact information for long-lost friends.
- If the vehicle you're taking to Pennsic doesn't have an E-ZPass, consider getting one. It will save you money on the PA Turnpike (see <http://www.paturnpike.com> for details). For example, a passenger car with no trailer, traveling from Breezewood to Cranberry, will pay \$20.60 in tolls without an E-ZPass and \$14.70 with one.
- In general, gasoline costs a few cents more per gallon in Pennsylvania than in Maryland, so keep that in mind when planning your stops. However, you probably won't be able to avoid buying some fuel in the Keystone State.
- Nowadays, the folks who take your money at Pennsic troll will advise you to take a photo of your receipt with your phone. But how do you know your phone won't get lost or stolen at War? Will it be out of power when you need

it most? Stick your receipt in your vehicle's glove compartment, just as you did in the pre-smartphone era.

- Last year, on a town run to the supermarket, I noticed that the store (in Butler) was almost completely out of “super soakers,” water pistols, and the like. If you and your family are planning to take part in the annual water battle, consider buying your “weapons” before leaving for Pennsic.
- We've all been advised to store our belongings in those big plastic bins, but consider using a couple of smaller plastic bins to store those items that could get buried under full-sized pieces of garb.
- When visiting encampments other than your own, remember the basics of etiquette. Hail the camp before entering. Don't flop yourself down hard onto a simple camp chair as if it is a living-room recliner. Ask permission before smoking or vaping – the residents may be highly allergic, or they may be ex-smokers who find tobacco aromas set off their cravings.
- Finally, don't worry whether you are having the same kind of Pennsic as you were told you would have. Enjoy it for the unique experience that you are having.

(Random Advice #1)

*HI!
WHEN
THE NOCK IS
ON THE STRING,
THEN MISTER BOW IS
NO LONGER YOUR FRIEND.
"HOLD!"
MEANS
"STOP."
NOW.*

How Not to Kill Your Campmates (Or Be Killed By Them)

By Teleri the Well-Prepared

Pennsic! Although it is a magical time, it is also a trying one. It's hot and humid, sapping energy during the day and making it harder to rest well at night. We sleep less, as the sun drives us out of our tents early, but we stay up late to take advantage of cooler night temperatures. We're away from the comforts and conveniences of home, often while trying to pull off spectacular displays of pageantry or cooking on a scale we're not accustomed to. There's too much to do, not enough time to do it all, and at any given time, half the populace is likely dehydrated, hung over, or both. Under these conditions, we are sometimes less than the ideals of courtesy and chivalry that we aspire to. Pack patience in with the rest of your gear. Things will go wrong, appointments will be forgotten, parties or battles or shows will be missed, and you will be disappointed. But if you dwell on that disappointment, you'll miss out on having a great time for the rest of War. In general, I find that it helps to try to do two things:

- **Be extra courteous.** If you are outside of your personal tent space, consider how your gear, your sounds, your actions will impact your fellow campers. There is no pleasing some people, and accidents happen, but try.
- **Be extra charitable.** Not with money, but with the benefit of the doubt. Who among us has not let the privy door slam and immediately regretted it? People make mistakes. Forgive them and, as they say, let it go.

Specific remedies are:

- **Hail a camp when you visit.** Camp is home. If you are visiting someone in their camp, call out or catch the eye of someone in their camp and announce yourself from the camp gate. A stranger wandering around a campsite is like a stranger wandering around your house.
- **Respect quiet hours.** They are 2 AM to 7 AM. People are sleeping. Be quiet.
- **Bring ear plugs anyway.** If you went to bed at 2 AM, my 7 AM coffee-making may annoy you. Put in some soft ear plugs, put on a sleep mask, and slumber on.
- **Close the privy door gently, coming and going.** Otherwise, it's Bang! Bang! Bang! all night long for those camped near them.

- **Put down the privy lid.** Use your foot if you don't want to touch it. Lid down, stink goes up privy chimney. Lid up, stink goes into privy.
- **Stay out of the camp kitchen when meal plan meals are being prepared.** The cooks are busy, please respect that.
- **Scrape food scraps into the garbage.** Try to rinse as little food as possible into the sump. It will just rot and stink.
- **Shower quickly, and turn off the water while you soap up.** Others are waiting their turn. All waste water flows into the sump - use less water so we don't overflow the sump.
- **Respect common areas.** Common areas are for everyone, including you! You can sit there, do crafts there, rest your bags there, and so forth. But please don't leave your stuff there indefinitely, especially near dinner time.
- **Respect personal property.** If you are not sure if a chair, bag of chips, or bottle of booze in the common area is up for grabs, please ask.
- **Assume good intentions** . Most people are not jerks. Courteously let someone know if their behavior is running afoul of camp customs, and give them a chance to correct it.

Take deep calming breaths, and have a great Pennsic!

(Random Advice #2)

*But the worst o' your foes is the sun over'ead:
 You **must** wear your 'elmet for all that is said:
 If 'e finds you uncovered 'e'll knock you down dead...*

– Kipling, R.

*This is admittedly out of period, and it's not quite **that** bad at Pennsic, but the noonday sun in Pennsylvania in August is no joke. Wear a hat. Wear sunscreen. Do not be afraid to seek shade, rest when you can, and of course STAY HYDRATED.*

Pennsic: Bugging In and Bugging Out

By Lady Patricia of Trakai

Some people are perfectly organized. Not only do they pack their cars a week in advance of their trip to Pennsic, they also remember exactly where they packed everything within the vehicle, down to the smallest spare battery and set of nail clippers. Those people do not include yours truly. More than once I've arrived at Pennsic or another event site in the dark, and I can't find my flashlight, I have no idea where the stakes and ropes are, and my nails are all torn up because I'm not wearing the work gloves I made a point of packing ... somewhere in all that stuff.

A friend once let me watch the TV show *Doomsday Preppers* with him, and from it I gleaned the concept of a "bug-out bag." Basically, a bug-out bag is a pre-packed piece of luggage that is ready for you to grab if you have to leave your home in a hurry, due to a hurricane, wildfire, or other apocalypse. It's supposed to contain everything you need for the first 72 hours of your homelessness: cash, ammo, water-purification tablets, all that stuff that hard-core "preppers" recommend. I realized that I was already kind of making a similar bag (minus the weaponry, of course) when I pack my car to leave Pennsic. From there it was easy to extend the concept to the "bug-in bag" – the first things you need when you finish your 50-week town run.

The Bug-In Bag

Your bug-in bag should contain the things you need for those first few hours at Pennsic: while you are in the troll line and while you are setting up your tent and bedding. It doesn't have to be a bag – it can be a cardboard box, basket, whatever. Just something that you can grab easily when you exit your vehicle.

The things you could put in there ultimately depend on your personal needs, but could include:

- Wallet and photo ID for troll
- Flashlights, headlamps, lanterns – even if you think you'll arrive at Pennsic well before sunset, traffic jams or flat tires may delay you
- Sunscreen, if you *do* arrive well before sunset
- Other personal hygiene items and medications such as inhalers
- Tankard or water bottle for hydration

- Energy bars or other snacks – after sitting in a car for hours, you'll suddenly be burning many calories
- Toys, sippy cup, diapers, snacks for family members too young to understand the maxim, "When the parent works, everybody works."

Other things – bandanna, facial wipes – are totally up to you.

The Bug-Out Bag

Personally, the last thing I like to do before leaving Cooper's Lake property for my 50-week town run is to take a shower at the building formerly known as the "solar shower." Therefore, my bug-out bag is filled with the stuff I need for a happy shower experience, from soap and towel to a clean set of mundane clothes (you *did* bring some clean mundanes for the ride home, didn't you?). Part of my "bug-out" routine also involves transferring things that have been stashed in belt pouches back into my mundane purse. It helps to have one flashlight still within reach if you have any unexpected trouble on the way home. Finally, a phone charger for your car would be helpful, since by the time you leave the War, your phone is probably screaming, "Gimme some electrons!"

Again, there are no hard and fast rules for bug-in and bug-out bags. I hope the idea of them keeps you from emptying out your car in the darkness just to find your flashlight.

(Random Advice #3)

*If at all possible, keep a clean pair of socks in a sealed bag in your car's glove compartment. You probably won't need them. You might not even remember them until you open the glove compartment six months later and ask yourself, "Why do I have clean socks in a sealed bag in my glove compartment?" But if you ever **do** need them you will need those clean, dry socks so very, **very** much.*

So, when you do find them, you might as well just leave them there. Clearly they weren't getting in the way or anything anyway.

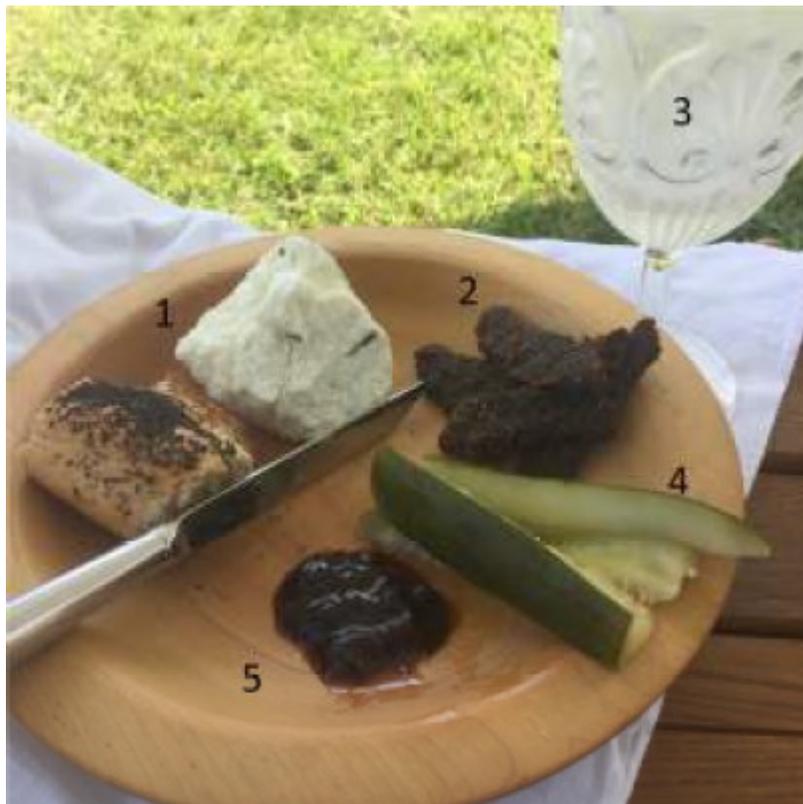
Lady Alicia's Cookery Booke: Pennsic Foodstuffs

By Lady Alicia of Cambion

Greetings! The Lady is out of the Manor at this time and will be returning after Pennsic. Please leave her a missive and the servants will file it away accordingly. She will reply to all queries upon her return. Your cookery concerns are very important to us and will be addressed in the order received.

If you are missing the Pennsic experience or need some last minute food ideas, here is a list of delicious options from previous columns that you can try at home or even at your campsite!

Enjoy! Go forth and cook good food!



1 – **Farmer's Cheese (April 2016)**

<https://ladyaliciascookerybooke.wordpress.com/2016/04/28/april-farmers-cheese/>

2 – **Viking Dried Meat (July 2015)**

<https://ladyaliciascookerybooke.wordpress.com/2015/07/03/viking-dried-meat/>

3 – **Sekanjabin (July 2016)**

<https://ladyaliciascookerybooke.wordpress.com/2016/07/08/july-sekanjabin/>

4 – **Pickles (September 2016)**

<https://ladyaliciascookerybooke.wordpress.com/2016/09/15/september-pickles/>

5 – **Elizabethan Strawberry Preserves (June 2015)**

<https://ladyaliciascookerybooke.wordpress.com/2015/06/23/elizabethan-strawberry-preserves/>

Do you have a cookery question you'd like to have answered? Email Lady Alicia at ofnoimp@yahoo.com.

(Random Advice #4)

***THE CRITTERS
ARE NOT TAME.***

***THEY HAVE NO INTEREST IN YOUR
BUSINESS, BUT THEY ARE NOT TAME.***

The Art of Survival

by Astrid Spakona

At Pennsic 2007, As I lay fast asleep on my attempted equivalent of a Viking bed, otherwise known as an IKEA futon on a wooden frame, my hand drifted away from the mattress and hit cold water. I sat bolt upright. My tent was flooded.

- **Pennsic Lesson Learned #1:** Waterproof your tent seams before camping in torrential rainstorms.
- **Possible Pennsic Lesson Learned #2:** when you buy your tent at an online clearance section, you get what you pay for.

The center floor seam had rendered the tarp underneath the tent useless. I struggled to bail the water out. As more rain fell, the more I struggled. I remain grateful to this day that my camp mates had assembled my futon frame for me before I arrived in the darker part of evening, that first night. Pro tip: sleep on a raised sort of bed, whether a camping cot or a frame self-assembled out of 2x4s.

When it was not ripping our tent stakes out with tropical storms that saturated the earth, that Pennsic tended to be the temperature of an oven. Good idea: hang your soaked clothing or laundry to dry. Bad idea: leave for a two hour class while trusting Mother Nature to dry your stuff. Oh, no. Mother Nature is to be respected. A predictable housemaid, she is not.

In 100-105 degrees Fahrenheit, in linen garb, it is exceedingly easy to drink insufficient quantities of water. Linen clothing wicks away sweat, which is amazing. Vikings wore lots of linen, and Viking garb is easily constructed in simple geometric shapes: rectangles and triangles. Fun fact: "Red" was a compliment for a warrior among Vikings. It was the warrior on the battlefield whose skin turned red. Only cowards were referred to as "white."

- **Pennsic Lesson #3:** Be a Viking, but reapply sunblock regularly anyway. Sunburn will not help you reap the respect of your camp mates when you roll in at dusk o'clock, mumbling about how dizzy you feel. Ask me how I know these things... experience. I was made to sit and drink copious amounts of Gatorade.

- **Pennsic Lesson #4:** Hydrate adequately, meaning all the dang time. If you are happy you have managed to avoid the Portajohns for 3 hours, you need to fix that right quick.
- **Pennsic Lesson #5:** Carry your own hand sanitizer and possibly packaged wipes. Port-a-potties can be rank as all get out. Most of them are well stocked with toilet paper.

Fast Forward to my next Pennsic in 2016: I applied all of these lessons, and my Pennsic experience was much improved. I was warmly received by my camp mates and realized that that was where I belonged.

Some more sage advice:

- Take a photo of the Cooper's Lake Campground map and another of the Merchants (vendors) map, with your phone. You will get lost less and look adult more.
- Buy a battery powered fan for your tent, the seams of which you waterproofed, right?
- Attend at least one introductory dance class, even if you don't think you can dance. Try out parties and bardic circles. Bring your favorite poem to share. If drinking, go with friends, and remember your cell phone with that map on it. And hydrate. Drum circles are also fun.
- Check out classes and especially encourage children to [participate in activities](#) prepared especially for them. The Children's Fete is one of these. See [Youth Activities](#) for more.

Above all, have fun while embodying those core SCA values that involve treating other people right. If you want more advice, I'm here all night.

(Random Advice #5)

Remember: the person selling things at Pennsic also usually sells them the rest of the year, too. So if you can't get it now, then at least get their business card. Then put the contact info (including what the product they're selling is) in your phone so that when you lose the business card later you can still track down that one fabric merchant with the AMAZING inventory.

Classes! And Activities!

You might find these classes and other activities of interest. And they might even have a familiar face or two, which is nothing to sneeze at when Pennsic gets a little overwhelming. Because it can.

August 3, 9 AM, A&S 12. **Holy Cows and Flaming Monks: Folk Saints of the SCA** (Lord William de Hirst). Like the Middle Ages itself, the SCA has produced its own folk saints, and what may start as an inside joke ends up looking like a real saint's cult. We'll explore some of the weirder saints to come out of the SCA, and look at the cult of St. Bunstable as a case study.

August 3, 10 AM, A&S 16. **Arabic 101: Conversation and Pronunciation** (Baroness Tala al-Zahra). Learn the correct pronunciation of Arabic names and phrases. Add a linguistic flair to your persona by integrating Arabic words and phrases (like *hafla*) into your SCA conversations. While useful for personas from many regions, the dialect and vocabulary will focus on the *Maghreb* region.

August 3, 11 AM, A&S 5. **Ars Dictaminis: Art of Medieval Letter Writing** (Lord William de Hirst). Learn letter writing, medieval style! Using period sources, we'll look at how and what letters were used for, plus how to write your own!

August 3, 12 PM, East Kingdom Royal **Developing a Make-and-Take Class: Cheesemaking** (Lady Alicia of Cambion). Make-and-take classes are popular, make excellent demos, and are a great hands-on way to teach a new skill. We will walk through some of the elements of developing your own make-and-take class project while demonstrating the process of making a simple cheese.

August 3, 12 PM, Family Point Tent 2. **Heraldic Paper Dolls: Animal Attitude** (Lady Rose nic Galen). There are any number of poses that a beast, bird, or monster can have in a coat of arms. Learn how to describe them while making your own paper doll!

August 4, 9 AM, A&S 2. **Pictorial Puns: Heraldic Canting Roundtable** (Lady Rose nic Galen) Heralds **do** have a sense of humor! A roundtable discussion on depicting puns in heraldry, both in the SCA and in period. Bring your worst!

August 4, 12 PM, A&S 16. **Maghribi Philosophy: Mind of Maimonides** (Baroness Tala al-Zahra). From Cordoba to Fes, Timbuktu to Tunis, North Africans brought intellectual light to the world during the "Dark Ages." Come learn about great scholars associated with Al-Qarawiyyin University and the city of Fes. This year's focus is Maimonides. Most of the class will be a guided discussion in which we will explore concepts that shocked, entertained and educated the medieval world at large. No prior knowledge of *Maghribi* history or philosophy is required.

August 5, 10 AM, A&S 16. **Andalusian Poetry** (Lady Talia de Morales). A survey of the medieval poetry of Andalusian Spain from the 10th to the 13th century.

August 6, 11 AM, A&S 16. **Arabic 101: Reading and Writing** (Baroness Tala al-Zahra). This class introduces the Arabic alphabet with exercises designed to acclimate participants to the structure of the letters and language. We will use modern and extant sources; participants will be able to write and read key Arabic words by the end of class. While the lesson will be useful for personas in all regions and cultures, the dialect and names will skew toward the *Maghreb* region. Class is nicely complemented by its companion class, Arabic 101: Conversation and Pronunciation.

August 6, 5 PM, A&S 19. **Getting Garbed! Clothing for Newcomers** (Lady Sonya Flicker [Patches]). Some people come to their first event already knowing exactly who they want to be, what they want to look like, and how to achieve that look. The rest of us must do some research and ask for help.

August 7, 12 PM, A&S 6. **Global Period History: The Continent of Africa** (Astrid Spakona). Learn about the empires, ethnic groups, and events that shaped Africa, at the same time as the European Middle Ages. A broad survey of history, beginning with the 600s, and ending just before the era of colonization began in the 1440s.

August 7, 1 PM, A&S 5. **Introduction to Beginning Period Cookery** (Lady Alicia of Cambion). Want to cook "in period", but don't know where to start? Your apartment doesn't have a handy open fireplace? No idea what an *eyroun* is or where to find one? No problem! This class is designed for beginners who might never have cooked a period recipe before but want a quick introduction into some of the basics of modern period cookery.

August 7, 1 PM, Family Point Tent 2. **Heraldic Paper Dolls: Animal Attitude** (Lady Rose nic Galen). There are any number of poses that a beast, bird, or monster can have in a coat of arms. Learn how to describe them while making your own paper doll!

August 8, 11 AM, A&S 8. **Kingdom in the Sun: The Normans in Sicily** (Lord William de Hirst). Mercenaries to kings, the Normans established a sophisticated multicultural paradise in Sicily. Explore the glories of the "other Norman Conquest."

August 8, 9 PM, Dance Tent. **Reduction Ball** (Lady Sonya Flicker [Patches]). This ball will feature a series of dances starting with dances for as many as will, then progressively smaller sets, and ending with dances for single dancers. The ball is open to all levels of dancers (partners and fancy garb not necessary). Music will be provided by an open band assembled at Pennsic. We welcome musicians to join us in our celebration. In addition, there will be light refreshments available.

(Random Advice #6)

Rules for Bards

- *You have permission to perform.*
- *You also have permission to be **bad** at performing.*
- *Respect the rules of the bardic circle.*
- *When in doubt of the rules, ask the person running the circle.*
- *When introducing your piece, say your name, the name of the piece, and then start.*
- *That means no ten minute digressions to cover up your nervousness.*
- *People listened to you on your turn; so listen to people on theirs.*
- *Don't be afraid to gracefully leave when you do need to go.*
- *Nobody has ever died of embarrassment.*
- *If you mess up and people think it's good, you totally meant to do that.*

- Lord Morgan O'Lathlann

Baronial Regnum

Baron and Baroness of Storvik

Baron Celric d'Ravelle & Baroness Ilaria de Gandia

D. Bartlett and M. Bartlett

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Deputy Seneschal

Minister of Arts & Sciences

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Baronial Champions**Archery**

Lord Cameron de Grey

Arts & Sciences

Dame Emma West

Bardic

Lady Astrid Spakona and Irena

Heavy Weapons

Lady Eleanor Bywater

Rapier

Noble Rajan of Kapellenberg

Youth

Vacant

Baronial Appointees**Warlord**

Lord Griffin Wharvager

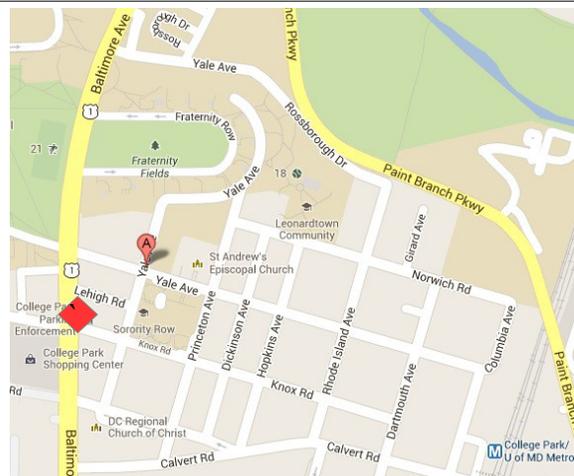
Populace meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of the month at 6:30pm at Jason's Deli in College Park, MD. Baronial business will be conducted at 7pm. Take your best route to US-1 S in College Park. Go past the university main gates; a few lights down is Knox Rd, with a Peri-Peri chicken place on your right. Turn right and then turn left into the parking lot of the mall. Jason's Deli is near the entrance where you came in. 7356 Baltimore Ave, College Park, MD. 301-779-3924.

Fight practice (armored and rapier) and **dance practice** are held each Monday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 4512 College Ave., College Park, MD 20740, at the corner of College Ave and Princeton Ave. off of Route 1, south of Paint Branch Pkwy. 7 blocks from the College Park/U of MD Metro on the Green Line.

Archery practice on Sunday 11:00am at Adelphi archery range, 2800 University Blvd E, Adelphi, MD 20783; equipment-making at Lord Cameron's during inclement weather.

Early Northern European Adhocracy: 9426 Canterbury Riding, Laurel, MD. Right off I-95 exit 35A. Free unassigned parking. One cat.

Baronial At-Home: 1204 Canberwell Rd, Catonsville MD



Jason's Deli located by red diamond. Monday practice at 4512 College Ave, College Park, MD 20740 is at the letter "A" in the map pin.

Release Forms

Want to share something in the Drekkar? Give me legal permission to do so!

[Grant of Use Form](#): For articles, non-photograph artwork, most other contributions

[Model Release Form](#): People appearing in photographs must sign this if:

1. The image is portrait-style
2. The photograph is taken in a private space at an event (such as a personal encampment)
3. The photograph is taken at a non-public venue (such as an armor-making workshop at a home)

No model release form is needed when the photograph is taken at a public place and in a public forum

(where there is no expectation of privacy), including:

- any SCA contest or competition, merchants' row, court, class, etc.

[Photo Release Form](#): The photographer who takes a picture (of anything or anyone) must sign a release form.