

The Salamander

Newsletter of the Barony of Bhakail

November 2022 A.S. LVII



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Calendar of Upcoming Events

The following are events scheduled in the Southern Region of the East Kingdom and other selected events. For a complete list of upcoming East Kingdom events and further information, visit <https://www.eastkingdom.org/events/>

Sat, Dec. 10, 2022	Yule Revel	Barony of Bhakail Philadelphia, PA
Sat, Jan. 7, 2023	Beast of the East (B.O.E.)	Barony of Iron Bog Marlton, NJ
Sat, Jan 7, 2023	Owlsherst Country 12th Night	Shire of Owlsherst York, PA
Sat, Jan 14, 2023	Fighter Schola & Tournament of the Fallen Stag	Shire of Caer Adamant Wilmington, DE
Sat, Jan 21, 2023	Bellringers	Barony of Carillion Manalapan, NJ
Sat, Jan 28, 2023	Bhakail Tavern	Barony of Bhakail Philadelphia, PA
Sat, Feb 4, 2023	East Kingdom Bardic Champions	Shire of Hartshorn-dale Douglassville, PA
Sat, Feb 11, 2023	Imbolc Schola	Barony of Settmour Swamp Madison, NJ
Sat, Feb 18, 2023	East Kingdom Rapier Championships	Shire of Quintavia Tyngsborough, MA

Current Schedule of Bhakail Practices, Socials, and Meetings

For further details, visit: <https://bhakail.eastkingdom.org/wordpress/index.php/calendar/>

Event	Time and Day	Location	Contact
Thrown Weapons Practice	Practices will resume in Spring 2023 as weather permits. Contact Mikael melrakki or Maryna Borowska , or join the Bhakail Projectile Practices group on Facebook for updates.		
Target Archery Practice			
Business Meeting	2nd Tuesdays of the month	https://meet.google.com/gpf-gerd-ikj	Mael Eoin mac Echuidh
Baronial Social	Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm	Morton, PA. For address, email 166054@members.eastkingdom.org	Mael Eoin mac Echuidh
Fencing Practice	Wednesdays, 7:30-10:00pm	3323 Tudor Street, Philadelphia, PA 19136	Melchior Kriebel
Armored Combat Practice (joint with Hartshorn-Dale)	Thursdays, 7:00-9:30pm	118 S Valley Rd, Paoli, PA 19301	Motte Machefalter

Bhakail Yule Revel is December 10 at the German Society of Pennsylvania

The flame of Bhakail will burn brightly on December 10th at **Yule Revel** as we celebrate the coming winter. The event is a Royal Progress, and we are thrilled to host Their Majesties! The event location is the German Society of Pennsylvania (611 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123). Masks will not be required, but are strongly recommended whenever possible as cold and flu season kicks in. There will be medical-grade masks provided at Gate.

- ❖ **Pre-registration is required** – no registrations accepted at the gate! You can still pre-register at: <https://surveys.eastkingdom.org/index.php/569558>
- ❖ **FEAST IS NOW SOLD OUT!** If you would like to be added to the waiting list in case of cancellations, please email reservations@bhakail.eastkingdom.org
- ❖ For those interested in dining with friends, but not participating in Feast, a potluck off-board dinner will be held in the Ratskeller. Contact Lady Triona MacCasky to sign up - 120385@members.eastkingdom.org
- ❖ **Help is sought for volunteers to serve as Door Wardens**, as the main entrance needs to be staffed the entire day. Shifts will be one hour long so as not to take away from your enjoyment of the day. If you are interested in helping with this or other duties, please contact Lady Chana Freidl the Maker, 232223@members.eastkingdom.org

Tentative Schedule

10:00 am	Site Opens
10:00 am – Noon	Arts & Sciences competition set up
Noon	Dayboard provided by Lord Martyn de Halliwell
1:00 – 3:00pm	Athena's Thimble Solar – if you are interested in embroidery come by and chat!
2:00pm	Athena's Thimble Panel
1:00 – 2:00 pm	A&S Judging
2:30 – 3:30pm	Brewing Competition Judging
3:00pm	Sock Exchange – Stuff a cool pair of socks with gifts (limit of \$15) and get a gift pair in exchange! Homemade or handcrafted gifts are preferred but not required. Any questions can be forwarded to Lady Motte Nachfalter at 235409@members.eastkingdom.org
2:00 – 3:30pm	Dancing – Dance Mistress Eleanor de Astlye will lead period dances. Every skill level is welcome, each dance will be taught step by step!
4:00pm	Court – Baronial Court will be followed by Royal Court
6:30pm	Feast presented by Baroness Juliana von Altenfeld
10:00pm	Site Closes

Scan or click below to visit the East Kingdom Event Calendar Yule Revel event page for pre-registration, further details and the latest information:



Local Arts & Sciences Opportunities - Scolastica Caparellia

There are many upcoming events in the local area with planned A&S activities. Please see the East Kingdom event announcements for details.

- ❖ December 10, 2022: Yule Revel, Barony of Bhakail (Philadelphia PA) A&S Competition and Brewing Competition
- ❖ January 7, 2023: Owlsherst Country 12th Night (York, PA) a day of games, music and dancing
- ❖ January 14, 2023: Fighters Schola and Tournament of the Fallen Stag, Shire of Caer Adamant, Wilmington Delaware, learn about fighting techniques and history
- ❖ January 28, 2023: Sign of the Wolf, Raven and Winged Cat, Barony of Bhakail (Philadelphia PA) Baronial Gaming Champion and Bardic Competition
- ❖ February 4, 2022: East Kingdom Bardic Championships, Shire of Hartshorn-Dale, Douglassville, PA, Bardic Competition and Largess Challenge

Kingdom A&S competition is scheduled for March 4, 2023! This year in Laval Quebec! Registration opens December 1. This year's competition will again be a hybrid format of online displays and in person competition. For more information please read about it on the Kingdom MOAS website: <https://moas.eastkingdom.org/displays-competitions/crowns-as-champions/>

Baronial Arts & Sciences Competition

Theme chosen by current Champion Svana Vefari

This year's Bhakail A&S competition at Yule Revel will focus around "Growth". As artists, we find ourselves on an ever-changing and challenging journey while pursuing our particular area of A&S study. We would love to see how artisans have grown from where they began to where they are now. What have you learned? What "Ah-HAH!" moments did you experience? What explorations helped you refine your art and overcome trials? For those of you who are just starting out in your A&S journey, no worries. Please explain what you have learned so far and what goals you are working towards. Actual documentation for entries is highly encouraged and needs only be brief with a few sources. We look forward to seeing your entries and learning more about your Arts and Science journey. Questions may be directed to Svana via email at Lindsay.nery@yahoo.com.

Baronial Brewing Competition

Theme chosen by current Champion Siobhan the Harper

This year's Bhakail brewing competition theme at Yule Revel is "Something to Keep Us Warm". Any category of beverage (beer, wine, mead, cordial, other) that will keep us all warm and cozy. Points awarded for taste and historical inspiration. So bring your best spiced mead or hypocras, mulled wine, good hearty beer to enjoy by the fire, Wassail (using the brewer's product), cordials, etc. As always, a full ingredient list is mandatory. Documentation is encouraged, but not required. Questions may be directed to Siobhan via email at 221176@members.eastkingdom.org.



To the Trees! An Introduction to the East Kingdom Foresters Guild - Silvanus Woodwise

There are so many enjoyable pursuits in the SCA. Martial activities like archery, rapier fencing, armored combat, and thrown weapons. Myriad arts & sciences to explore, bardic, scribal—the lists of hobbies within our hobby is endless. But did you know that there is a guild within the Society dedicated to the appreciation of the natural world around you, and exploring it in a medieval context? Enter the East Kingdom Foresters Guild.

While working toward becoming an archery and a thrown weapons marshal in my first months as a newcomer to the Society during the pandemic, I traveled between Bhakail, my home in Settmour Swamp (New Jersey), and my off-grid cabin in Panther Vale (Vermont). Camping, hiking, exploring, fishing, foraging, birdwatching, and cataloging the plants, trees, and animals in the surrounding forests were an escape from the crazy things happening in the modern world. Spending time in the woods allowed me to unwind, relax, heal, and just breathe for a couple of days before returning to the stress of everyday pandemic life. There is something about being in nature that invigorates us, charges our batteries, and helps us feel grounded. If you're like me, green spaces and wild places are something you consider to be sacred and worth protecting, from the smallest city park to vast stands of pines and oaks. In the East Kingdom (and beyond), the protectors of the Royal forests, riverways, and the game that calls them home are the Royal Foresters.

The East Kingdom Royal Foresters are based on the medieval Foresters that protected the forests of medieval England from outlaws and poachers. Medieval Foresters organized themselves into courts named after the forest in which they worked. They served the King and Queen and kept the forests clear of poachers and thieves, they maintained the forests by culling and promoting the right kinds of trees for the ultimate health of the forest.

In the Society, the Royal Foresters are organized as an A&S guild that studies outdoor living, survival and camping. The Royal Foresters welcome gentles who are interested in wilderness living, camping, pavilioning, and period survival, as well as period land and inland waterway journeys. It is the purpose of Foresters to research, recreate, educate, and demonstrate historical tools, methods, equipment, and



techniques for living, camping, traveling, and cooking in the wilderness, and identification of edible and medicinal plants and trees. While the guild is based on the Royal Foresters of medieval England, members are welcome to portray any persona within the SCA timeframe. Her Royal Majesty Corotica merkka Senebelenae is a Master Forester, Chief Ranger, and Grandmaster Forester in the East Kingdom Royal Foresters Guild.

Foresters contribute to outdoor SCA events by volunteering to oversee the building of a safe and responsible campfire. Foresters can set up displays of outdoor cooking over the fire using techniques like spit roasting meats or baking cakes, bread, and pies. (There is always something tasty at the Forester camp.) Foresters will occasionally "arrest" an "outlaw" or "poacher" to be brought before territorial representatives (a baron or baroness, or even the sovereigns themselves) to answer for their "crimes" of making mischief in the royal forests. Foresters strongly believe in service to our Kingdom and its people, and as such a Forester is ready and willing to be called on to assist at any time, whether to help set up a campsite, serve a meal, or wash dishes.

Attaining the guild rank of Master Forester requires a high level of Forester skill, a willingness to teach, and the completion of a masterwork (among other requirements). But, advancing through the guild ranks is not required in order to enjoy the pursuits of the guild. Each guild rank, starting with Underforester, has specific requirements that members may tackle as their skills, interests, and experience grow. If you can demonstrate to a sworn Forester that you

can safely build a campfire that won't burn down the forest, and light it with modern matches, you're one step toward advancement. All levels of Forester skill are welcomed, and sharing and teaching those skills go hand in hand with advancement.

There are three guild awards for those who wish to demonstrate their exceptional achievements in the skills of a Forester. A Forester may only choose one path, and they are all challenging and rewarding in different ways. In brief, the three paths are:

The Order of St. Hubert, or "Rangers": An elite subgroup of Foresters who are experienced in wilderness living and travel. Rangers are the most skilled guild members at outdoor living and outdoor medieval reenactment. Their medieval counterparts were typically high-status yeomen who could afford horses and would patrol vast areas. While anyone can be a Forester, few can become a Ranger, and fewer yet wish to do so. Her Royal Majesty Corotica is Chief Ranger of the Western Marches in the Order of St. Hubert.

The Order of St. Eustace, or "Regarders": A martial subgroup of Foresters who are experienced at and excel at martial activities as a Forester. Known as "the fighting Foresters," their medieval counterparts were typically low-status Knights who would survey Royal Forests collecting information for taxation and resource management. While anyone can be a Forester, few can become a Regarder, and fewer yet wish to do so.

The Order of St. John Gaulbert, or "Woodwards": A subgroup of Foresters who are experienced at and excel at Forester arts & sciences and service. Their medieval counterparts were typically forest law officials who would work in the Royal Forests at resource management. Woodward dealt primarily with trees and lumber. While anyone can be a Forester, few can become a Woodward, and fewer yet wish to do so. (Detecting a pattern here?)

I hope that by this point you're wondering, how do I become a Forester? Are there Forester events? Are there other Foresters in my area? I am in the process of starting a chapter of the East Kingdom Royal Foresters Guild in the

Forest of Settmour Swamp. I am also offering to help any gentle in the Southern Region (regardless of territory) submit their applications to become a member of the guild, and passing those applications on to the High Warden of the East, Vindiorix Ordovix.

There is a 90-day probationary period for all members who apply (mainly so we can be sure you're not going to burn down the forests on our watch). In time, as other territories in the Southern Region have enough members to begin their own regional chapters (a minimum of five are needed), I will assist them in getting their chapters started. We may not have as much forest surrounding us as our friends to the North, but the numerous state and county parks, campgrounds, and shoreline in our lands provide us with a bounty of natural areas to protect, preserve, and appreciate for the benefit of the East Kingdom and the honor of our sovereigns.

As the winter approaches, I plan to organize at least one daytime event (likely a walk with opportunity for firestarting practice), and look toward Settmour Swamp's Mudthaw for our official charter as a regional chapter. If you'd like to join us, please reach out and get your application in early. For more information, please visit the guild website at <https://ekfg.eastkingdom.org/>, email me at 253429@members.eastkingdom.org, and request to join our Foresters of Settmour Swamp Facebook group. Hope to see you at Forest court!

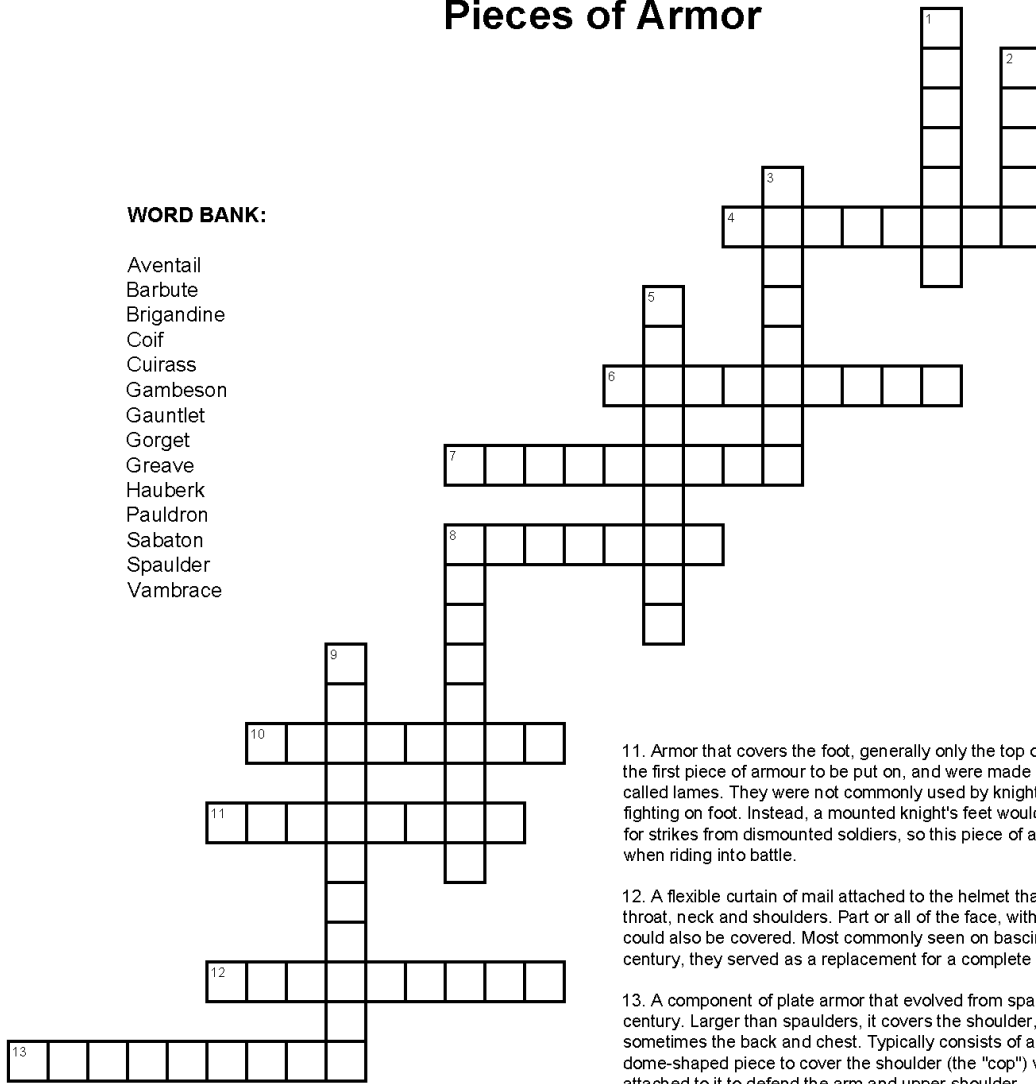


Puzzle Page - Rowen Cloteworthy

Pieces of Armor

WORD BANK:

Aventail
 Barbute
 Brigandine
 Coif
 Cuirass
 Gambeson
 Gauntlet
 Gorget
 Greave
 Hauberk
 Pauldron
 Sabaton
 Spaulder
 Vambrace



11. Armor that covers the foot, generally only the top of the foot. They were the first piece of armour to be put on, and were made of riveted iron plates called lames. They were not commonly used by knights or men at arms fighting on foot. Instead, a mounted knight's feet would be at perfect height for strikes from dismounted soldiers, so this piece of armour would be vital when riding into battle.

12. A flexible curtain of mail attached to the helmet that extends to cover the throat, neck and shoulders. Part or all of the face, with spaces to allow vision, could also be covered. Most commonly seen on bascinet helmets in the 14th century, they served as a replacement for a complete mail hood.

13. A component of plate armor that evolved from spaulders in the 15th century. Larger than spaulders, it covers the shoulder, armpit, and sometimes the back and chest. Typically consists of a single large dome-shaped piece to cover the shoulder (the "cop") with multiple lames attached to it to defend the arm and upper shoulder.

ACROSS:

4. A close fitting, visor-less helmet from 15th century Italy with a Y- or T-shaped slit for the eyes and mouth, reminiscent of ancient Greek helmets. The name was first recorded in an inventory made for the Gonzaga family of Mantua in 1407.
6. From the French word "avant-bras" meaning forearm, and originating in the early 14th century, a guard either of solid metal, boiled leather, or splints of metal attached to a leather backing.
7. Gloves that cover from the fingers to the forearms and often made from leather or steel. Sometimes made as mittens, sometimes with articulated fingers. Often seen from the early 14th century to the early modern period.
8. Armor that covers the lower leg, usually made of metal lined with felt. From the Old French word meaning "shin", they can be found as far back as ancient Greece. Initially only covering the front of the leg, closed versions protecting the front and back are seen beginning around 1290.
10. Armor that covers the torso, usually front and back, formed from a single or multiple pieces of material. Originally made of leather, often made of steel by the 14th century.

DOWN:

1. Steel and/or leather collar used to protect the neck and throat, and later part of the chest. From the French word meaning "throat".
2. A flexible hood of chain mail that extended to cover the throat, neck and the top part of the shoulders, often worn with a hauberk. Sometimes made as part of a hauberk, sometimes as a separate piece.
3. Mail shirt reaching down to at least mid-thigh and having sleeves. May have originated in the medieval Islamic world. The Bayeux Tapestry shows Norman soldiers wearing knee-length versions with three-quarter sleeves.
5. A part of plate armour. Typically a single plate of steel or iron covering the shoulder, with bands called lames joined by straps of leather or rivets covering part of the upper arm, but not the armpit.
8. A padded jacket worn alone or combined with mail or plate armor, usually constructed of linen or wool and stuffed with scrap cloth or horse hair. By the 14th century, illustrations usually show buttons or laces up the front.
9. Heavy cloth, canvas, or leather garment lined with small oblong steel plates riveted to the inner fabric, sometimes lined with a second layer of material inside, used as body armor from the 12th to the 16th centuries.

(Game designed by Rowen Cloteworthy, used by permission.)

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