

# *The Salamander*

Newsletter of the Barony of Bhakail

March 2023 A.S. LVII



|  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>Calendar of Upcoming Events</b>   | <b>2</b> |
| <b>Current Schedule of Bhakail Practices, Socials, and Meetings</b>              | <b>2</b> |
| <b>Waking of the Salamander II is April 21 - 23</b>                              | <b>3</b> |
| <b>Arts &amp; Sciences Classes and Activities at Waking of the Salamander II</b> | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Arts &amp; Sciences Opportunities - Scolastica Capellaria</b>                 | <b>5</b> |
| <b>SCA Equestrian Activities - Beck of Copeland</b>                              | <b>6</b> |
| <b>Officers of the Barony of Bhakail</b>   | <b>8</b> |

## 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/>

|                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| April 8, 2023     | Black Gryphon Inn                                   | Canton of Gryphonwald - Edison, NJ             |
| April 15-16, 2023 | East Kingdom's Brewers' Collegium (Brew U)          | Crown Province of Ostgardr - Peekskill, NJ     |
| April 15, 2023    | Iron Bog Baronial Birthday Gathering                | Barony of Iron Bog - Sewell, NJ                |
| April 16, 2023    | Service Schola                                      | Barony of Carillion - South River, NJ          |
| April 21-23, 2023 | Waking of the Salamander II                         | Barony of Bhakail - Media, PA                  |
| April 22, 2023    | Schola at the University; Wolfie Welcomes the Ducks | Barony of An Dubhaigainn - Stony Brook, NY     |
| May 6, 2023       | Spring Crown Tournament and Youth Champions of Arms | Crown Province of Ostgardr - Carmel Hamlet, NY |
| May 19-21, 2023   | Consort's and Sovereign's Archery Championships     | Barony of Beyond the Mountain - Colchester, CT |
| May 20, 2023      | al-Hafla - Buckland Cross Bardic Champions          | Barony of Buckland Cross - Langhorne, PA       |
| May 20, 2023      | Lions End Schola: Let the Lions Roar                | Canton of Lions End - Glen Head, NY            |
| May 26-29, 2023   | The Quest for Wit & Wisdom XXXVIII                  | Barony of Settmour Swamp - Pittstown, NJ       |
| June 2-4, 2023    | Southern Region War Camp                            | Barony of Carillion - Manalapan, NJ            |

## 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 | Sundays, 11am-1pm  | 320 North Ave, Secane, PA 19018   | <a href="#">Mikael melrakki</a>       |
| Target Archery Practice | Sundays, 1:30-3:30pm   | 320 North Ave, Secane, PA 19018   | <a href="#">Maryna Borowska</a>       |
| Business Meeting        | 2nd Tuesdays of the month  | <a href="https://meet.google.com/gpf-gerd-ikj">https://meet.google.com/gpf-gerd-ikj</a>   | <a href="#">Mael Eoin mac Echuidh</a> |
| Baronial Social         | Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm  | Morton, PA. For address, email <a href="mailto:166054@members.eastkingdom.org">166054@members.eastkingdom.org</a>                   | <a href="#">Mael Eoin mac Echuidh</a> |
| Fencing Practice        | Fencing practice is currently on hiatus due to lack of a location. If you have a lead on a potential practice location, please contact Melchior. |   | <a href="#">Melchior Kriebel</a>      |
| Armored Combat Practice | Thursdays, 7:00-9:30pm   | Indoor practices, alternating weekly between Ultimate Archery in Maple Shade NJ and Lonnie Young Recreation Center in Philadelphia. | <a href="#">Motte Machefalter</a>     |

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## Waking of the Salamander II is April 21 - 23

Each spring, as the temperatures warm over the ever-lengthening day, the Salamander awakes from its dormancy and emerges from its burrow to bask in the light of the sun and marvel at the fresh and green world! The Barony of Bhakail too is ready to leave its winter torpor behind and encourages all to wake and enjoy a weekend of cooking over the open flame, basking in the light of the spring sun, and learning new skills to take into the summer months! The Barony welcomes all to demonstrate their knowledge of and participate in outdoor activities such as fire starting and tending, firing pottery in an open fire, foraging, and more, culminating in the Salamander's Cooking Demonstration and Competition!

### SCHEDULE

#### Friday, April 21

4:00 pm Troll opens for campers only  
Dusk Park and troll close for the evening

#### Saturday, April 22

9:00 am Troll reopens  
10:00 am Cooking and A&S classes begin  
TBD Keepers of Athena's Thimble panel  
4:00 pm Court  
Dusk Park closes, day participants must leave  
Evening Dancing led by Lady Eleanor De Astyle

#### Sunday, April 23

12:00 pm Site closes



### Cooking Demonstration and Competition (aka Chickensmithing)

The long and short of it is that competitors are expected to show off their cooking skills, whether over the fire, on a grill, on a camp stove...however you want to hew your meal, we all want to see how you do it and sample some of what you're making! There is no requirement that your food be chicken and there is no requirement that your food be period. We are looking for you to show off your outdoor cooking skills over an open fire, whether than fire be at a fire pit, over a charcoal grill, or otherwise. Show us your skills and feed us!

- Cooks, PLEASE PRE-REGISTER with the event steward, Taichleach Eoganacht, at [258215@members.eastkingdom.org](mailto:258215@members.eastkingdom.org) or with Máistir Mael Eoin mac Echuidh at [166054@members.eastkingdom.org](mailto:166054@members.eastkingdom.org)
- Demonstrators and competitors will be providing the rolling day board for the event on Saturday.
- Most of the dish should be cooked on site and will be asked to explain their cooking techniques and demonstrate to onlookers.
- A full ingredients list is required.
- Cooks will be given a \$20 stipend to reimburse for expenses/supplies (limited to the first 10 cooks to sign up). Receipts are required!
- Feel free to collaborate or ask to be paired up with another cook.
- Charcoal and wood will be provided. Please feel free to bring your own supplies if you have them.

## Arts & Sciences Classes and Activities at Waking of the Salamander II

**Arts and Science Classes** (Times are still tentative at time of publication; check the event website for updates.)  
Classes will be held in Pavilion 11-A, which is just a short walk from the main campground area.

### **Pre-10:00 am**

Watch as Lu An-hua, Ysmay de Lynn, and Lissa Underhill demonstrate the start of the pottery firing process.

### **10:00-11:00 am**

***Making and Firing Primitive Pottery.*** Lu An-hua, Ysmay de Lynn, and Lissa Underhill. Learn how early potters found and processed clay, formed pottery by hand, and fired pottery in a pit or bonfire.

### **11:15 - 12:15 pm**

***Understanding How to Start a Fire and the Helps and Hinderances.*** Lord Aiden Underhill. Tricks of the trade in building, starting, and maintaining fires.

### **12:15 - 1:15 pm**

Break/Lunch. Day board is rolling, so feel free to eat at any time. We encourage you to tour the cooks' stations.

### **1:15 - 2:15 pm**

***Flora and Fauna of Period Embroidery.*** Dame Elizabet Marshall. Join Elizabet for a quick overview of ways that plants and animals (and bugs, oh my) were used in pre-17th century embroidery. Not an exhaustive class, but more like some of the highlights. This is not a hands-on class specifically, but I may have materials available for people to start their own flora or fauna motif.

### **2:30 - 3:45 pm(ish)**

***Local Flora and Early Local Wild Edibles.*** Lady Alexondra. Hello friends! Does the prospect of green life returning to the landscape fill you with excitement? Are you looking to enjoy a bit of sunshine and take in the freshness and bounty spring has to offer? Please join me on a wild and weedy wander during The Walking of the Salamander to explore the local flora and take a look at the early wild edibles we may encounter during this beginner's foraging class. Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring comfortable walking shoes. Be mindful we may be walking through fields and easy paths of the forest. Happy Spring, and I hope to see you there!

### **Athena's Thimble Panel** (Exact time to be determined)

Join members of Athena's Thimble to look at and talk about embroidery. Bring a piece you have done either for panel or to share. Dame Elizabet Marshall will also have a tent up for embroidery solar - a place to sit and stitch and chat. Bring a chair. Look for the pop-up with owls.

Scan or click below to visit the East Kingdom Event Calendar event page for further details and the latest information:



## Arts & Sciences Opportunities - Scolastica Capellaria

There are A&S opportunities at the following upcoming local events:

- April 15-16, 2023: East Kingdom Brewers' Collegium, Crown Province of Ostgardr (Peekskill, NY)
  - Classes for brewers of all skill levels as well as paneling and judging of period brews.
- April 16, 2023: Service Schola in the Barony of Carillion (South River, NJ)
  - Classes on various volunteer positions in society.
- April 22, 2023: Waking of the Salamander (Media, PA)
  - Camping and outdoor cooking and other arts and science activities!
- May 13, 2023: Sign of the Dancing Fox, Shire of Nordenhalle (Kingston, NY)
  - Music, song, dance, and fox related Arts and science challenges.
- May 20, 2023: Al-Hafla, Buckland Cross, (Langhorne, PA)
  - Music, dancing, games, and food, Buckland Cross's Bardic Championships.
- May 26th -29th, 2023: Quest for Wit and Wisdom, Settmour Swamp (Pittstown, NJ)
  - Baronial A&S Competition and Artisan's Row.

There continue to be virtual events throughout the known world.

- Atlantia University next session: Sunday June 11, 2023
  - <https://university.atlantia.sca.org/>
- Known World Italians: August 2023 (Currently looking for staff and teachers)
  - <https://knownworlditalians.org/>
- Known World Scribes: To be Announced. In Person event June 23-25, 2023 in Northshield (Wisconsin)
  - <https://heraldry.sca.org/kwhss/>
- Sunday with the Scribes: A weekly scribal lecture series
  - <https://scribal.art/swts/sncal/>
- Costumers of Color: Silk Routes Symposium 2023, all lectures are available including many videos about non-western garb.
  - <https://costumersofcolor.org/events/list-of-classes/?fbclid=IwAR0BEE0g2ABOJmXoLU3OihDykTm0mcHu8WAjVo1XktpaqFkZyiR3fWWBoL0>

If there are other virtual events/A&S opportunities out there please let me know!

If you have any A&S interests that you would like to explore, need help researching something, or are looking for resources feel free to email me at [MOAS@bhakail.eastkingdom.org](mailto:MOAS@bhakail.eastkingdom.org). I would love to see what you are working on! Please send me pictures of your projects!

## SCA Equestrian Activities - Beck of Copeland

*A*t some SCA events you will see colorfully-attired riders and horses charging at one another with lances, or taking part in the games of skill that squires and other mounted warriors practiced in the medieval period to build the skills needed for mounted combat and hunting. Equestrian activities enhance the medieval pageantry at our events!

SCA equestrian activities include mounted games, such as:

- Quintain - practice for jousting by aiming with a lance at a shield on a rotating arm. If you have seen the movie *A Knight's Tale*, you have seen the quintain!
- Ring Lance - uses a lance to hit rings mounted on a post.
- Tent pegging - uses a spear to hit a ground target, as though riding through an enemy camp and uprooting their tent pegs.
- Heads - knocking "fake" heads off posts with a sword.



Beck of Copeland and Mica practicing Heads.

Photo by Ellyn Grene, used by permission.

Other activities you may see at an event are jousting and archery from horseback. Often the games are combined to form a course for the rider to perform, and sometimes teams of riders are needed to do all of the activities. These games allow the riders to display their historic gear and horse costumes, and make an SCA event feel as though you are attending a real medieval tournament.

To participate in equestrian activities, you must be individually authorized at riding, mounted games, and mounted archery. All authorized riders are encouraged to wear riding helmets, and all youth riders **must** wear a helmet.

Don't have a horse? You can still participate! Making game equipment or barding (garb for horses) is a great way to enhance your sewing, leather, or woodworking skills. At equestrian events, people to serve as ground crew are always needed to help reset targets and assist the riders. Ground crew is a great way to get introduced to our activities! If you don't have experience with horses and want to learn, start by asking equestrians if you can pet or hold their horse, and helping with feed and clean-up after the horse is also a great way to get to know the horses and owners. And of course, spectators are also highly encouraged.

Upcoming East Kingdom events with equestrian activities:

- Panteria XXVI: May 26-29, Shire of Panther Vale, VT
- Southern Region War Camp: June 2-4, Barony of Carillion, NJ
- Iron Bog Investiture and East Kingdom Equestrian Championships: June 10, Barony of Iron Bog, NJ
- River Wars: Date TBD, Barony of Iron Bog, NJ

If you want to know more about SCA Equestrian activities, please contact Beck of Copeland at [212046@members.eastkingdom.org](mailto:212046@members.eastkingdom.org)

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