

The Salamander

Newsletter of the Barony of Bhakail
January 2025 A.S. LIX



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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/>

January 24-26, 2025	A Market Day at Birka	Barony of Stonemarche Manchester, NH
January 25, 2025	At the Sign of the Elderflower and Boot	Barony of Bhakail Philadelphia, PA
January 30, 2025	East Kingdom Curia, Part 1	Ethereal
February 13, 2025	East Kingdom Curia, Part 2	Ethereal
March 1, 2025	Crown's Arts & Sciences Champions Competition	Barony of Settmour Swamp Washington, NJ
March 8, 2025	Nova Schola	Shire of Hartshorn-dale Collegeville, PA
March 29, 2025	Mudthaw XLIV	Barony of Settmour Swamp Washington, 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	Practices will resume in Spring 2025 as weather permits. Contact Mikael melrakki or Ellyn Grene , or join the Bhakail Projectile Practices group on Facebook for updates.		
Target Archery Practice			
Scribal Study Group	Varies; see the Bhakail calendar for upcoming meetings	Virtual or in person, contact Margarette la Gantiere for details	
Bailiwick of Iveyinrust Business Meeting	2nd Mondays of the month, 7:15pm	Virtual, contact Emery de Champagne for details (dates subject to change based on Penn academic schedule)	
Baronial Social	Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm	Morton, PA. For address, email 166054@members.eastkingdom.org	Mael Eoin mac Echuidh
Armored Combat Practice	Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30pm	48 Dickinson St. Philadelphia, PA 19147	Ezra De Bazzi
Fencing Practice	Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30pm	Reformation Lutheran Church 102 W Rose Tree Rd, Media PA 19063	Melchior Kriebel
Baronial Business Meeting	2nd Thursday of the month, 7:00pm	https://meet.google.com/gpf-gerd-ikj	Margarette la Gantiere

Cover photo by Ellyn Grene, used with permission.

Bhakail Tavern is January 25, 2025: At the Sign of the Elderflower and Boot

Welcome to another year in Bhakail's Tavern! We look forward to seeing you at the German Society of Philadelphia, 611 Spring Garden Street. The site opens at 10:00am and closes at 8:00pm. Due to the size of the venue and the nature of the event (as a training opportunity for folks to run other events), attendance is capped at 60 people.

Dayboard Menu - Plats Occitans

Òrs D'Òbras

Tablèu de charcutariá a l'estil occitan - Occitan-style charcuterie board
Salada de figa amb formatge de cabra - Fig salad with goat cheese

Entradas

Mig-taust ab let de melles - Chicken thighs roast in almond milk
Pex ffrít ab escabeyg - Fried fish with escabeche
Paillassons de courgettes - Zucchini fritters (V, G)

Plats D'Accompanhament

Pomas Boulangere - Bakers potatoes (V)
Pebrons de tomata - Sautéed peppers and tomatoes (V)
Legumes Cassoulet - Vegetable and bean casserole (V)

Desèrts

Aròs ag let de amelles - Ride pudding with almond milk (V)

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



Detail of a miniature of a temptation by lechery. Image taken from f. 33 of Breviari d'Amor. Written in Occitan. British Library, public domain.

Bhakail Baronial Bardic and Gaming Championship Competitions at Tavern

Bardic Competition

Theme chosen by current Champion Zacharie de Syrens

This year's Bardic Championship will be in two rounds.

One round will be based on the theme of Winter. The work can be: warm & cozy, seasonally festive, dark & cold; however you want to represent the season. The other round will be bards choice. Be prepared to present a favorite performance piece, or something you love.

Performances may be any kind of entertainment, including but not limited to songs, instrumental music, stories, dance, juggling acts, and puppet shows. Pieces should be period, period-compatible, or SCA-related, but no documentation will be required. Each piece should be less than 5 minutes. If there are five or more contestants, contestants may be eliminated after the first round.



Gaming Competition:

Board in Exciting Times!

Theme chosen by current Champion
Rowen Cloteworthy

Bhakail is in the midst of an exciting time! We have just witnessed the Investiture of our new Baron, kennari Mikael melrakki. It is one of His Excellency's early obligations to appoint a new Baronial Gaming Champion. At Tavern at the Sign of the Elderflower and Boot, a new Champion will be decided. The format will be as follows. Boards will be set out for chess (a medieval form, rules below), nard (backgammon without doublets or a doubling cube), alquerque, plaisant (modern checkers or draughts), and fox and geese. Players may play any combination of games, but must win at least two different games. The player with the most wins at the end of the tourney will be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, the champion will be decided by a best of three of nine man morris.

Our version of chess will be one of the earliest versions, taken from CA #71 and called "simple chess" by the author. All pieces except the pawn and the queen move as modern pieces do. The pawn does not have an opening two space move, but otherwise moves and captures as in modern chess. The queen may move only two squares, though in any direction as in modern chess. There is no castling. A pawn that makes the final row is promoted to the capitol piece that started in that space, though the king or queen's space is promoted to a bishop.

Court Reports from Bhakail Yule Revel XLV & Baronial Investiture

Court of his Excellency Muin

SCA Name	Award
Dragmall Viðnir	Order of the Harlequin
Ysmay de Lynn	Order of the Crucible
Sophie of Bhakail	Tear of Bhakail

Court of Their Majesties Matthew and Fiamuin

SCA Name	Award	Scroll
Baron Muin maqq Minain	Retired as Baron of Bhakail	
Kennari Mikael melrakki	Invested as the new Baron	
Arnaut duPont	Tyger's Cub	Scroll Forthcoming
Chana Freidl the Maker	Silver Mantle	Um Ishaq Sara bint Abu Zakariya
Ellyn Grene	Silver Mantle	W: Solveig Bjornsdottir C&I: Rloonwen Glynconway
Lydia FitzWaulter	Silver Brooch	W: Bo of Malagentia C&I: UmIshhaq Sara bint Abu Zakariya
Malcolm De Strathblane	Silver Tyger	W: Grimolfr Sklason C&I: Sitt al-Gharb haniqret Khazariyya (Khaza)
Scolastica Capellaria	Silver Wheel	W: Lydia Webbe, I: Theo Holz, C:Eva Vach Wyilt
Eyfura in Trausta	Silver Wheel/AOA	Caitríona inghean Ui Shíodhacháin
Dillena o'r Gwyrddol	Silver Wheel/AOA	Mýrún Leifsdóttir
Ursula De Torres	Silver Wheel	Martina Maria de la Rosa
Lu An-Hua	Burdened Tyger	Token
Andruta Jezofyna Or One who may speak for them	Silver Wheel	Aleksei Dmitriev
Maol Mhuire Called Rhie	Silver Wheel	Mariette de Bretagne
Björn Orðlokar	Silver Wheel/ AOA	Ranka Otsdottir
Eva Vach Wyllt	Silver Wheel	Margarette la Gantiere
Anna Di Bonannes	Silver Wheel/AOA	Emma Makilmone
Amelie DeWiss	Silver Rapier	Nataliia Anastasia Evgenova
Vivian de Dunbar (rescheduled)	Silver Wheel	Octavia Valeria
Scolastica la souriete	Silver Crescent	Jan Janowicz Bogdanski
Emeline la Chauciere	Maunche	Eloise of Coulter
Muin maqq Minain	Court Barony	Liadan ingen Chineada

Additional Business:

- The Children of the East ran after the Kingdom's newest Court Baron, Muin maqq Minain and were triumphant in their quest for the East Kingdom Toybox.
- The newcomers of the East joined their majesties just below the dias and were given cups in hopes that they would join us again and have their cups refilled.
- Thank you to the Event Steward Martyn de Halliwell and staff!
- Thank you to the kitchen staff! (Lu An-Hua, Graine, Ana de Roma, Nabiya bak Ragnall, Bjorn, Eyfura, Judith, Anna di Bonnanes and son Levi, Parker/Cayn, Julia, and Philly)
- Thank yous for the general crowd were given by Their Majesties and they continued with the new tradition of sharing the makers of the royal wardrobe.

Court of his Excellency Mikael

SCA Name	Award
Shifu Lu An-hua	Flame of Bhakail
Martyn de Halliwell	Flame of Bhakail

Additional Business:

- Baron Muin maqq Minain was presented gifts for his service to the Barony as previous Baron
- Lord Ian Douglass and Lady Triona MacCasky were presented personal tokens for their service to the Barony (running for Baron and Baroness)
- Lui Wing-Ken was presented a person token as Outgoing Baronial Brewing Champion
- Máistir Mael Eoin mac Echuidh was presented a scroll and Personal Token as the new Baronial Brewing Champion
- The Honorable Lady Scolastica Capellaria was presented a Personal Token as Outgoing Baronial A&S Champion
- Lady Cailleach Dhé ingen Chiaráin was presented a scroll and Personal Token as the new Baronial A&S Champion
- Baroness Yasamin al-Sardaniya, Lady Chana Freidl the Maker, and Lady Ellyn Grene were presented Personal Tokens for creation of Baron Mikael's coat for court



Opportunities to Get Involved

Have you been thinking about how you could get more involved in Bhakail? There are several opportunities available to volunteer your time and talents:

- Volunteers are sought to serve as Event Steward for upcoming events! Waking of the Salamander is in immediate need of an Event Steward; this event is a relatively easy one to run, for those just getting started. Plans also need to begin for Yule for next year, and Champions & Commons in the fall. There are folks who can assist you with the proposal and bid process if you are new to running events and want to get involved. Reach out to Bhakail's Seneschal, Lady Margarett la Gantiere at seneschal@bhakail.eastkingdom.org if you are interested in learning more or have any questions.
- Lady Ellyn Grene is seeking a **Deputy Chronicler**. The duties of chronicler include taking notes at the monthly baronial business meetings, posting these notes to the website, and producing the newsletter that you are currently reading. Contact Lady Ellyn at chronicler@bhakail.eastkingdom.org if you want to learn more or volunteer.



Officers of the Barony of Bhakail

Baron - Baron Mikael melrakki
baron@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Seneschal - Lady Margarette la Gantiere
seneschal@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Emergency Deputy Seneschal - Máistir Mael Eoin mac Echuidh
deputy-seneschal@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Social Media Deputy - Dillena o'r Gwyrddol
socialmedia@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Salamander Pursuivant (Herald) - Finnolfr Hrafnsson
herald@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Knight Marshal - Lady Ezra De Bazzi
knightmarshal@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Rapier Marshal - Don Melchior Kriebel
fencing@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Archery Marshal - Lady Ellyn Grene
archery@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Thrown Weapons Marshal - vacant

Chancellor of the Exchequer - Lord Martyn de Halliwell
exchequer@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Chamberlain - Dame Ysmay de Lynn
chamberlain@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Chronicler - Lady Ellyn Grene
chronicler@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Minister of Arts & Sciences - Honorable Lady Scolastica Capellaria
moas@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Deputy Minister of Arts & Sciences - Lady Eleanora the Tylemaker
deputy-moas@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Minister of the Lists - Honorable Lord Bryan Mac Dhunghaill
mol@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Chatelaine - Lady Chana Freidl the Maker
chatelaine@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Deputy Chatelaine - Honorable Lady Scolastica Capellaria
deputy-chatelaine@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Web Minister - Máistir Mael Eoin mac Echuidh
webminister@bhakail.eastkingdom.org

Seneschal, Bailiwick of Ivyeinrust -
Emery de Champagne
seneschal@ivyeinrust.eastkingdom.org

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