

# oldentales

BARONY of oldenfeld • KINGDOM of TRIMARIS

FEBRUARY, 2006, AS XL



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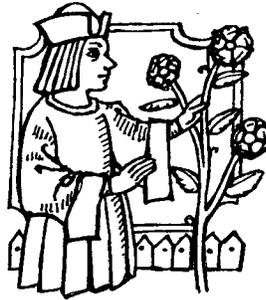


## upcoming events:

- Feb. 11-12: LIONS' TOURNEY**  
(Oldenfeld, Camp Indian Springs)
- Feb. 12: Kingdom Fighter Practice** (Kissimmee)
- Feb. 17-19: Trident Tourney**  
(Darkwater, Camp Winona)
- Feb. 24-26: Cutlasses & Corsaires** (Castlemere, Camp Imokalee)
- March 3-5: Midsummer Nights**  
(Marcaster)
- March 3-5: On the Road to War**  
(Amurgorod, Ocala)
- March 12-19: Gulf Wars 15**  
(Interkingdom, King's Arrow Ranch, Lumberton, MS)



This is the February, 2006 issue of Oldentales, a publication of the Barony of Oldenfeld of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. (SCA, Inc.). Oldentales is available from Karen K. Lee (e-mail [ginevra@shipbrook.com](mailto:ginevra@shipbrook.com)). It is not a corporate publication of SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA, Inc. policies.



## ymca camp indian springs needs you!

Hello, Happy New Year!

While only a few days past the new year, it is never too early to schedule our annual work party. So mark your calendars for Saturday, March 18, 2006.

We are planning our projects which will include some general clean up, re-roofing and painting. (More details to come next month).

I also invite you to visit our new improved web site at [www.campindiansprings.com](http://www.campindiansprings.com) or [www.tallahasseeymca.org/camp](http://www.tallahasseeymca.org/camp)

Feel free to pass this along to your friends and neighbors. As always, while we want to promote a family atmosphere, please limit this to teens and adults due to the nature of the work.

As always, thank you for supporting the YMCA Camp Indian Springs.

Sincerely, A.L. "ALF" Ferreira, Camp Executive Director  
YMCA Camp Indian Springs

## Barony of Oldenfeld Herbalist Guild

All Interested are welcome!

When: Thursday, February 23rd

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Deredere's House

817 Alliegood Avenue

284-7411

Topic For Discussion:

Planning Your Herb Garden



**oldenfeld anniversary**  
join us for the celebration of oldenfeld's  
first anniversary as a barony!



Fun! Food! Fighting!

**April 28—30, 2006**

YMCA Camp Indian Springs; 2387 Bloxham Cut-Off Road; Crawfordville, FL 32327

Site opens at 5 PM on Friday and closes at 11 AM on Sunday.

**Event Steward: Lady Isabella Julietta Diego y Vega**

(MKA: Julie Stevenson: [ldyisabella@hotmail.com](mailto:ldyisabella@hotmail.com)/850-350-2093)

**Assistant: HL Theadora Perplexa**

(MKA Tracy Haworth: [t.haworth@istal.com](mailto:t.haworth@istal.com)/850-385-2614)

**Head Cook: Lord Earnwulfe Aelfgaressune**

(MKA: Kyle Wallace: [kaw04j@fsu.edu](mailto:kaw04j@fsu.edu)/850-222-6469)

**Reservation Steward: Flann Belew**

(MKA: Brevin Brown: 850-386-6356)

**Prices:**

Day trip and 1 night: \$11.00 pre-reserved and \$12.00 at the door.

2 nights: \$19.00 pre-reserved and \$20.00 at the door.

(Non-members add \$3.)

Feast is \$8.00.

Send reservations to:

Oldenfeld Anniversary Event; P. O. Box 11233; Tallahassee, FL 32302-3233

Make checks payable to SCA dba Oldenfeld.

No family shall be charged more than 3 adult fares.

Children 12 and under are not charged.

Please, no original containers.

No pets allowed; help animals are welcome.

# t -37 days and counting until the start of GW XV . . . ARE YOU READY? hl Grainne ni aileen o'cearbhaille

If this is your first war, here are some things to take into consideration so you can be ready by March:

## Garb:

It has been known to be as cold as 28 degrees and as hot as 87 degrees. It could be dry, but more likely it will be wet and rainy for at least half of the time. So what does this mean for garb?

-layers like mundane clothes

-bring at least two days more outfits of clothes than you plan on being there, if you have the garb

(the war is 7 days so 9 days of clothes)

-garb doesn't need to be fancy everyday, you just need to be dressed. If you don't have a lot of garb consider things like buying men's PJ pants from Walmart. They are comfy and come in a variety of colors. Dry pants are a good thing when it's 45 degrees and wet.

-So now that you have pants from Walmart all you need are tunics and you still have time to have someone help you learn to make those.

-Bring mundane layers as well (i.e., everything from t-shirts to long johns to sweat pants)

-socks!!!! When you are down to your last pair of dry socks and you still have two days of war... (ask Baron Cedric about what he does - you'll remember plenty of socks to share :) Take a page from Mistress Fiona's book - start saving old socks and underwear for GW in a bag or drawer out of the way so you won't be tempted to pitch them. Use those at the war. Once you have worn them you can just through them away and then have less to bring home at the end of the war. (I even did this the last time I went to England. Saved me suitcase room so I could buy more cool stuff.)

-Bring a cloak or whatever you have like that...If you don't consider buying a couple of yards of warm fabric and using a pin to hold it around you (this is sometimes better than a cloak because it doesn't get so close to the ground)

Shoes - if you have leather shoes, you should probably waterproof them. You should also have a back-up pair and a back-up pair for the back-up pair. I have a pair of rubber boots that I bring every year. I don't always need them, but when I do, they are the best thing ever. (Wet shoes don't tend to put people in a happy mood, especially after the third day)



## Tent:

Here in Trimaris we know a little about rain, but we don't normally try to camp for a week in it.

Things to remember:

-Seam seal your tent

-check for weak spots and patch all holes if you find any

-have a couple tarps on hand - I have seen one under a tent and one over it, it's better to be safe than soaked

-trench around your tent (this means either you or your friend needs to remember something to dig with.) There is a slight slope to Trimarian land at GW and a trench to take the water away is good thing since it doesn't sink into clay soil well (read not for days).

Oh yeah, and don't forget to volunteer!!!!

Grainne

# hwæt bat mec {what BIT me?}



VICTOR HILDEBRAND VÖNN KÖLN  
mka RICHARD LOBINSKE

A brief introduction to some biting insects and other critters that could have annoyed the residents of Anglo-Saxon and later England, plus their Old English names. Since many of these insects are not preserved well in archeological remains, there is a lot of uncertainty as to which species may or may not have been present.

Fly (Diptera): *Fleoge*

Mosquito (Culicidae): *Gnæt* or *Micg*

These well-known human pests are prevalent worldwide with a strong diversity in England. Eight genera (Anopheles, Aedes, Coquillettidia, Culex, Culiseta, Ochlerotatus, and Orthopodomyia) and up to 32 species were possibly present in Anglo-Saxon England. Of greatest medical importance was Anopheles atroparvus, a vector of malaria (Plasmodium spp.), known as ague in earlier times. Individual species may have one to several generations per year, with adult emergence occurring most often from April to October (Cranston *et al.* 1987).

Biting midge (Ceratopogonidae) and Black Fly (Simuliidae): *Micg*

Biting midges are variously known around the world as midges, biting midges, sand flies, no-see-ums, punkies and others. These are often very small (0.6-1.5 mm), and grey to occasionally yellowish in color. Most biting midges worldwide are in the genus Culicoides [C. pulicarius common in Europe (Goddard 1993)], and Ceratopogon spp. (Wirth & Grogan 1988).

Black flies are small, black biting flies often mistaken for biting midges. In England and Europe, there are numerous species of the genus Simulium that will aggressively bite humans (Kim and Merritt 1987).

Gad Fly (Tabanidae, Oestridae and/or Asilidae): *Breosa* or *Beaw*

All three families of flies can be large, aggressive and irritating. The tabanids are represented by about 30 or 35 species of the Genera Chysops, Hybomitra, Atylotus, Tabanus, Haematopota and Heptatoma, common names include horse fly and deer fly (Chvala *et al.* 1972). The warble or bot flies (Oestridae), represented by the genus Oestrus have parasitic larvae that live under the skin of livestock and other mammals. Robber flies (Asilidae) and not as common or active, but can produce a painful bite (Borrer *et al.* 1989).

Ants, Bees, Wasps (Hymenoptera)



Ant: *Æmette*

Represented by the common wood ant, Formica rufa.

Bee: *Beo*

Best recognized by the common honey bee, Apis mellifera. Also often seen could be the any of the bumble bees, subfamily Bombinae.

Wasp: *Wæsp* Hornet: *Hyrnetu*

Represented by the common wasp, Vespula vulgaris, the hornet, Vespula crabro, and several other Vespula species.

## Ectoparasites

Louse (Phthiraptera) and Bedbug (Hemiptera: Cimicidae): *Lus*

Nit: *Hnitu*

Flea (Siphonaptera): *Flea*

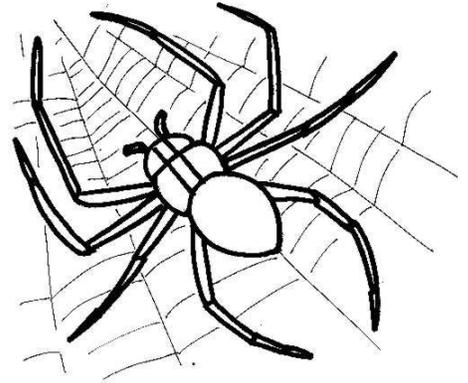
Household pet fleas, *Ctenophthalmus felis* and *C. canis*. Human flea, *Pulex irritans*, Oriental rat flea, *Xenopsylla cheopis*, vector of bubonic plague, *Yersinia pestis*,. Northern rat flea, *Nosopsyllus fasciatus*, vector of murine typhus. (Goddard 1993, Borror et al. 1989)

Tick (Arachnida: Acari): *Ticia*

Brown dog tick, *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*. European Castor Bean Tick, *Ixodes ricinus*, vector of Lyme disease, and tick-borne encephalitis (Goddard).

Spiders: *Attorcoppe*, *Gongewæfre*, *Hunta*, *Lobbe*

There are over 600 species in 33 families of spiders in the area (British Arachnological Society 2002). The vast majority of these species are too small to puncture human skin. While all spiders produce venom (from mild to strong), the primary risk from these spiders is to individuals who are allergic.



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This article first appeared in *Widowinde* issue 133 (Spring 2004), pages 17-18.

# a fable: the queen, the knight, and the beast

lord daniel gascon du pau



Once, not very long ago in a kingdom not so very far away at all, there was held a great tourney. Intended by her subjects to honor the Queen of that fair land, it was a resplendent occasion attended by those of both high and low estate alike. Know you that such was the Queen's renown, not just for beauty but for honor, virtue, and piety, that her subjects journeyed hence from both far and near to attend upon her. Indeed it was said that some came as if on pilgrimage.

Many a stalwart knight in splendid armor came to exhibit before her his prowess on the field. Many a fair lady in silken gown came to seek her advice on matters of the heart. Many a gay courtier in velvet doublet came to sing her praises in honeyed phrases composed of cleverly crafted rhyme. Many a humble villein in coarse cloth and wooden clogs came just to gaze upon her in mute wonder that the kingdom was so blessed.

Came there also a huge rough beast. The beast was heavy of body with great clawed hooves. It had a thickly armored hide, which though leathery resembled nothing so much as plate. Most alarming of all the beast had a broad cruel horn upon its head with which it threatened all and sundry. In truth this horn, sprouting from its snout, resembled nothing so much as a war galley's brazen ram. Rest assured that none present was so deluded as to mistake this creature for a gentle unicorn fit to lay its head in the lap of a maid.

Four footed, stout of limb, ox strong, the beast trod heavy upon the field with no regard for propriety. It circled the field menacing all that saw it. At the end of its parade the beast stood salient before the Queen as she sat in her pavilion with her ladies in waiting and guard of honor. It then, not with a bow but with an insolent nod inclined its head to the Queen. All who saw the beast, were sore amazed and, with a growing sense of disquiet, repelled. The Queen with a sense of foreboding called forth her herald and bade him cry the list.

"Is there any here who will vanquish this beast," called the herald.

Of those who took up the challenge and fought the beast many struck it many a brave blow yet none could penetrate its hide. Thus sadly all who confronted the beast, be they man at arms, squire, or belted knight, were vanquished by it.

There then came upon the field a knight in silvery plate riding a snow-white stallion. Bowing to the Queen, this paladin spoke to her in humble tones, "Your majesty, I would take up this challenge." Gaining her assent the silver knight passed his lance to a squire, and dismounted from his charger so that he might best the beast afoot as the others had attempted.

Making himself ready, the knight stood calmly poised as the beast charged him with hooves a thunder. At seemly the last moment the knight stepped to the side and as the beast's horn glanced off his shield the knight struck it a ringing blow. The beast then gravely shook its head and trotted off. The truculent creature then turned and with a mighty bellow had at him once again. Thrice in all was their passage d'arms repeated. Each time that the beast charged, the knight landed seemingly solid blows but to no avail.

The knight then called hold and leaned upon his sword. At this the beast stood stock-still and regarded him quizzically.

The knight cried out, "Your majesty, by my Honor, this is no mortal beast to be slain by force of arms. I fear that what has beset your kingdom is a summoned creature of some fell enchantment. Does any of your subjects know the words of power which might dispel it?"

Of all the folk there gathered none spoke up save one small child. In a high clear voice she said "I know the words, for our Queen, by her example, has taught them to me." This small brave herald then called out in a tone like unto a silver bell, the blessed words—

"Noblesse Oblige"

At that her utterance the beast bellowed as if in pain and was staggered.

The knight then thanked the lass and said, "Perhaps if everyone speaks the words, it will suffice."

The populace, hesitant and uncertain, then cried out—

"Noblesse Oblige"

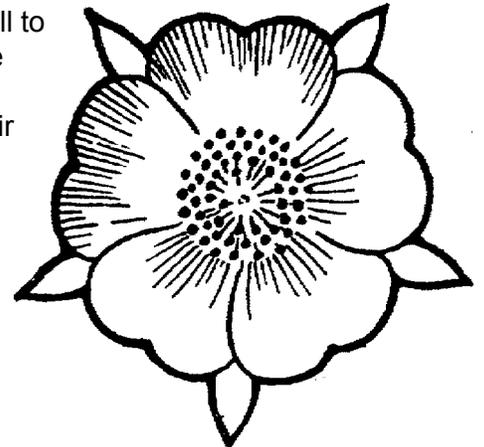
The beast bellowed yet again and fell to its knees.

"The knight then gravely shook his head and proclaimed "All must believe in their power and embrace them in their hearts for these words to banish the beast."

The populace then, in a single joyously voice, shouted out the words—

"Noblesse Oblige".

With that, the third utterance of those blessed words, the beast moaned, fell to its side, and was still. A most curious thing did then occur. The body of the beast shimmered and transformed like wax melting. Reshape by this fell process into the guise of a huge armored rat the beast then faded from their sight like fog before the morning sun.



As the Queen came forth to thank the knight he, on bended knee, took her hand and kissed it with reverence. Upon rising again the knight took up the reins of his horse in one hand and his lance in the other. There then appeared a brilliant white light as if from the center of the knight's shield. A blazing glory, the glow spread outward to encompass the knight, his lance, and his horse. When the light had faded the knight and his charger were nowhere to be seen.

"Your majesty," said one of the ladies in waiting "who was that silver knight?" With a wise smile the Queen replied, "did you not see the arms upon his shield?"

"Indeed I did, my liege, but while passingly familiar, I did not recognize them," she responded.

"They were the arms of St. George," the Queen replied.

To which replied her lady, "If that was St. George, where was the dragon?"

The Queen answered, "the beast appears in many forms and the guise of a dragon is but one of them."

Then musing aloud in amused wonder the Queen said, "A giant armadillo is it? I think I know where it is bound."

*(Continued on next page)*

## Explanatory Note

I patterned the story after "A Fable; Balfagor, The Devil Who Took a Wife" by Machievelli and tried to incorporate elements of "Mort de Arthur" by Mallory and "The Fairy Queen" by Spencer. As such it is something of a pastiche and kinder than Balfagor. I recommend Balfagor to all, by the way. It is very short, 10 pages or so, quite readable in translation and is the only surviving bit of his satire which remains. Sadly it is reported that he wrote many such satires but the objects of his humor were so sufficiently identifiable that his relatives prudently had the others burned upon his death. I've always hoped that copies of some would turn up in the Vatican archives. Someday perhaps they will.

Regards the giant armadillo, it is something of Texas joke. About 15 years back Lone Star beer ran an ad in campaign Texas featuring a giant armadillo with a preference for Lone Star beer. You never saw the beast in the ads, just its handiwork. It tore open beer trucks and the roof off of an out of the way country bar. All in all it was a very droll set of TV ads.

An armadillo was also featured on the arms of Sir John the Plain, a senior Ansteorran knight and an old acquaintance of mine who passed beyond the pale a few years back.

An odd historical note, I have documentable evidence (secondary) that in the 16th century one of the Italian Dukes had, in his private zoo, an armadillo.

Your humble servant,  
Daniel

The Reference Recommended

*The Portable Machiavelli* Edited and translated by Peter Bondanella and Mark Musa, Penguin Books N.Y., N.Y. 1979

"A Fable: Belfagor, The Devil Who Took a Wife" pps. 419 to 429



## oldenfeld activities

The Barony of Oldenfeld holds business meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month. These meetings are held at 7 PM at the Jack L. McLean, Jr. Community Center & Pool, 700 Paul Russell Road (near the intersection of South Monroe and Paul Russell). We have fighter practices (rattan, rapier and combat archery) on Sundays at 11 AM on the FSU campus Bellamy Green, between the Bellamy Building, Thagard Health Center and the old swimming pool. (Note that there is construction going on in that area of campus, so you might have to look around, but fighter practice will be in that area.) We have dance practice on Monday and Wednesday starting at 6:30 at Meyers Park near Apalachee Parkway, along with an unofficial rapier practice. On the first and third Tuesdays from 6:30 - 9:30 PM are shop nights at Ed & Michelle Costello's home; their phone number is 878-7565. Shop night is a chance for everyone to work on projects like armor and sewing together. When there is no shop night, we have music practice (vocal and instrumental) on Tuesdays, at the home of David & Mary Stevenson (850-893-2462).